



PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

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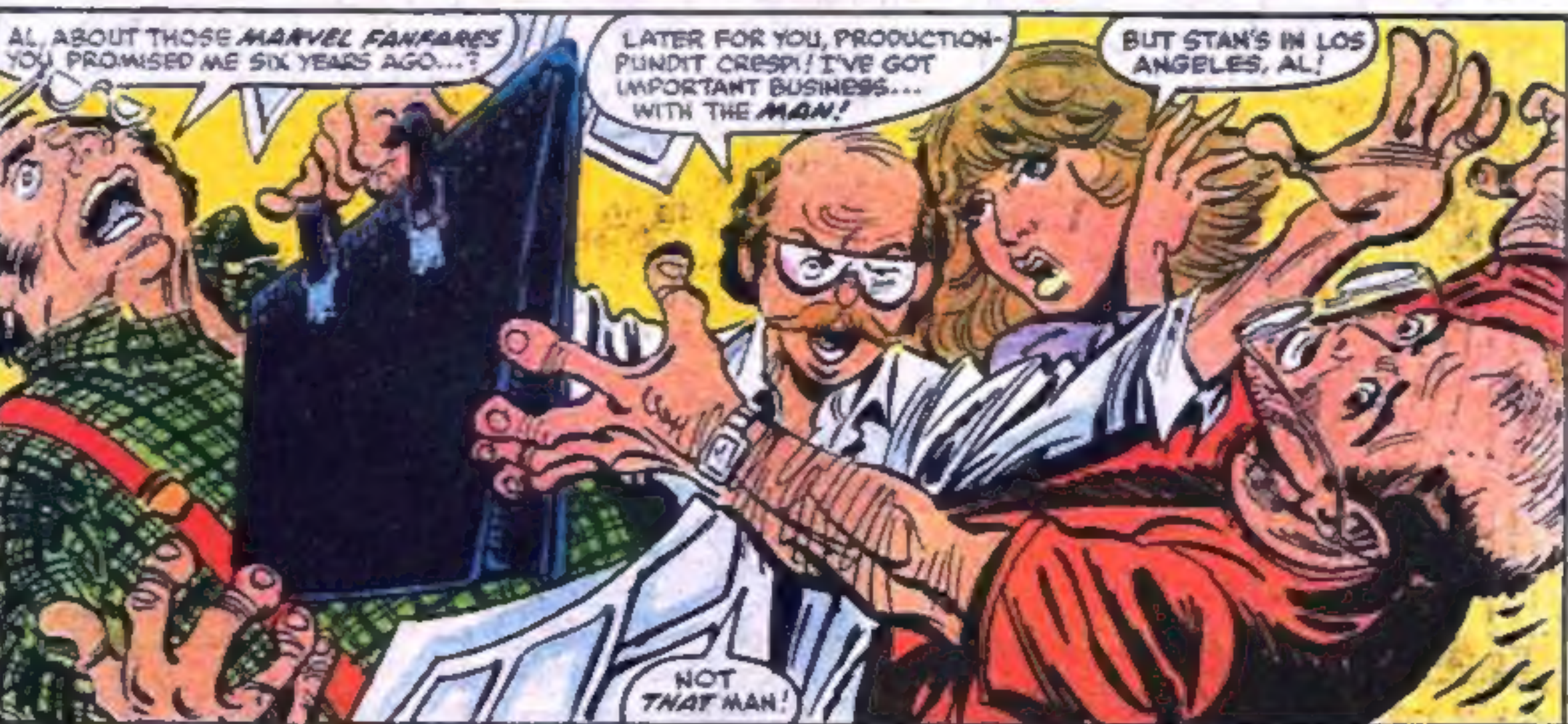
B.E.V.A.R.E.:
IT'S ASSISTANT
EDITORS' MONTH!
DON'T SAY WE DIDN'T WARN YOU!

I DON'T BELIEVE
IT, CAT! THEY GOT
FRED HEMBECK
TO DRAW THIS
ISSUE!

YEAH...
LOVE THOSE
KNEES!



A SEETHING FIGURE STALKING DOWN THE CARPETED CORRIDORS OF THE MARVEL COMICS OFFICES AT 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH SERVES TO REMIND US THAT HELL HATH NO FURY LIKE AN EX-EDITOR WHO'S RETURNED TO FREELANCING...



PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN™ Vol. 1, No. 88, January, 1984. (ISSN 0273-6532) Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galton, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing, Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production, OFFICE OF PUBLICATION, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Second Class postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. Published monthly. All characters copyright ©1963 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation, except Fred Hembeck copyright © 1983 Fred Hembeck. All rights reserved. Price 60c per copy in the U.S. and 75c in Canada. Subscription rate \$7.20 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, \$9.20. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. Postmaster: Send address changes to Subscription Dept., Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.

I'M TALKING ABOUT...
BOB DENATALE??!??

UH, H, AL! YOU LOOK PER-
TURBED. ANYTHING I CAN
DO TO SOOTHE YOUR NATURAL
FREELANCER'S INSECURITY
ABOUT WHAT WE ASSISTANT
EDITORS WHO ARE LEFT
HOLDING THE FORT HERE AT
OL' MARVEL ARE DOING TO
YOUR WORK NOW THAT
YOU'RE NO LONGER IN A
POSITION OF POWER?

DON'T
TRIPLE-TALK
ME, DENATALE!
I WANT TO
SEE YOUR
BOSS!

SPIDER-MAN
BATTLES
THE
CROSPY
CRITTERS
by
ROGER
STERN

I WANT TO
SEE THE CLOWN
WHO REJECTED
MY ART AS TOO
LIGHTWEIGHT
FOR SO IMPORTANT
AN ISSUE OF
SPECTACULAR
SPIDER-MAN
AS THIS ONE!

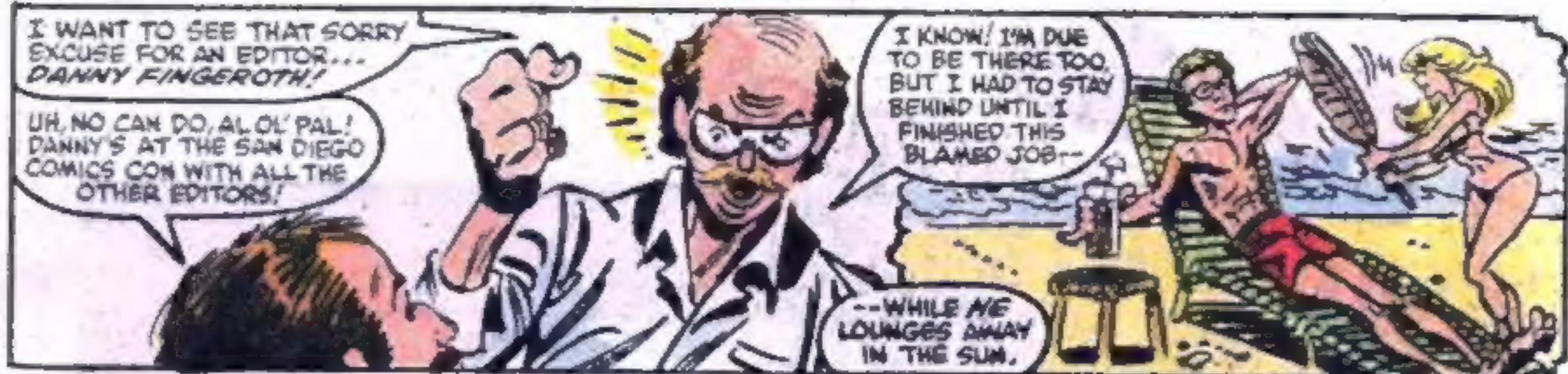
CALL
RON
FRENZ

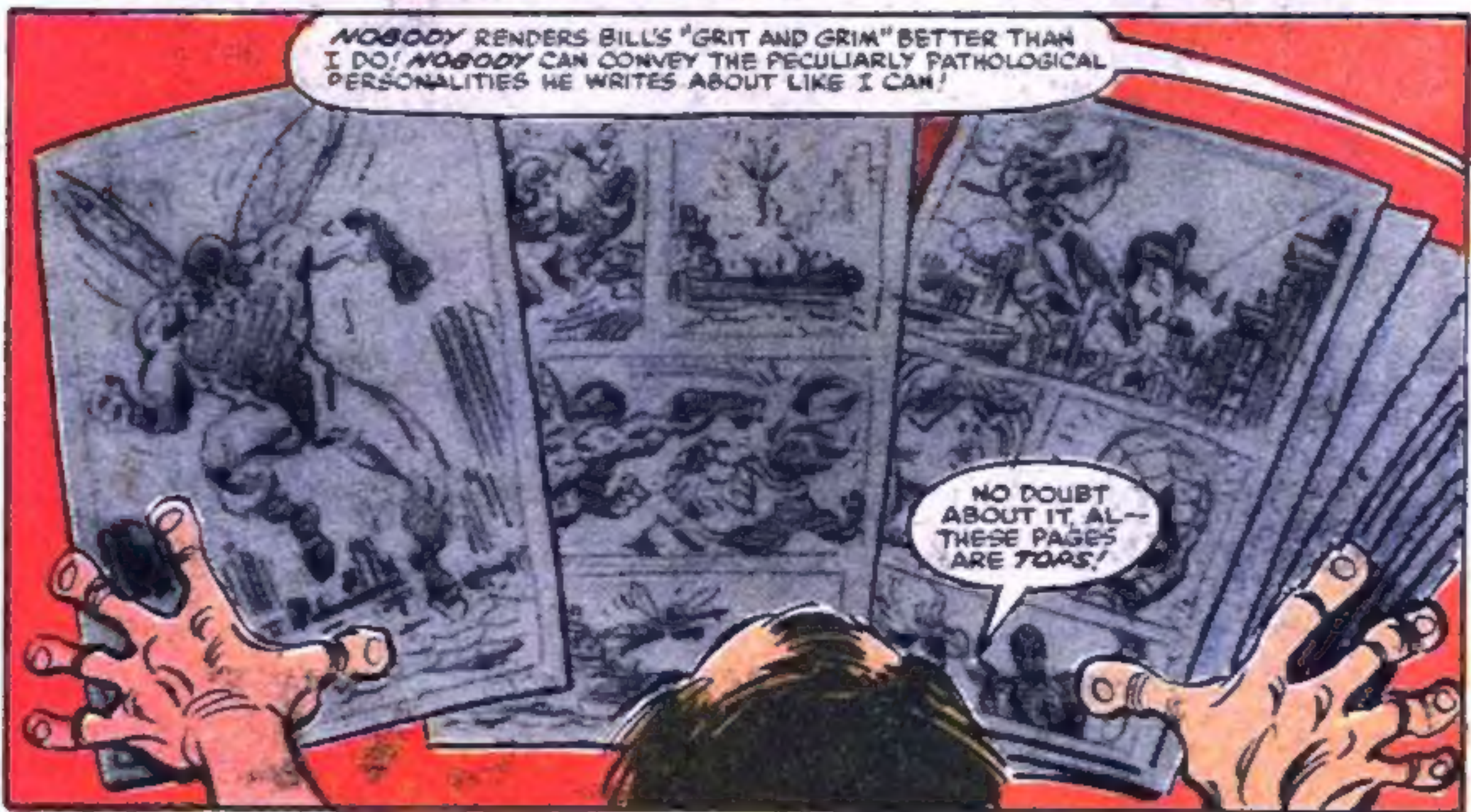
RON
FRENZ

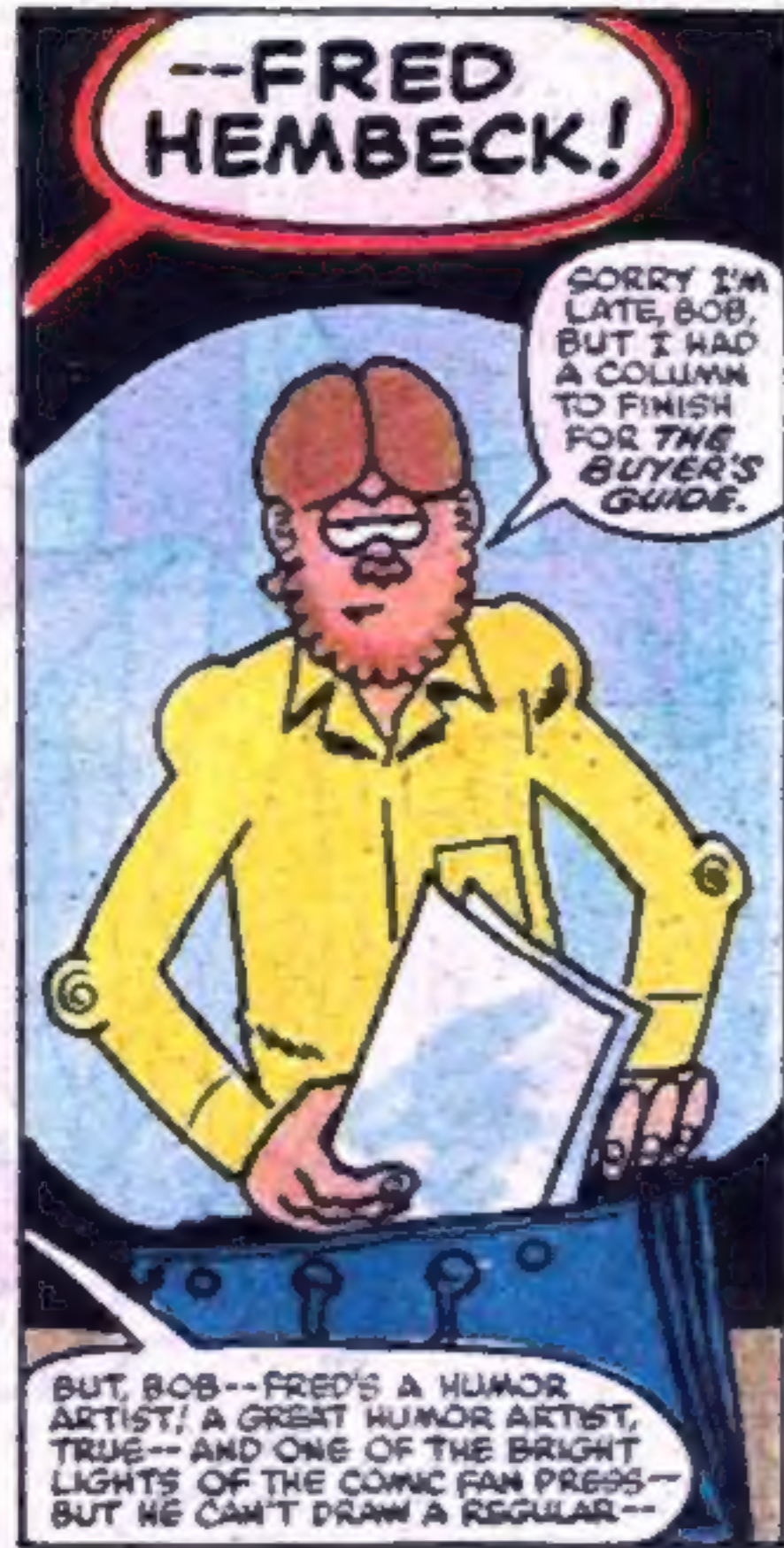
SEE
ALVIN
D.D.

CALL
RON
FRENZ

CALL
RON
FRENZ







STAN
LEE
PRESENTS
A TALE
CALCULATED
TO DRIVE
YOU...

BUGS!



MEN CALL HIM...
THE FEARSOME
FLY!

HE'S MORE THAN
A PEST. HE'S A
MENACE.

BILL
MANTLO
STORY?

AL
MILGROM
ART
PAGES 1-5, 21

FRED
HEMBECK
PENCILS
PAGES 6-20

AL
MILGROM & JIM
MOONEY
ART
PAGES 22-23

JOE
ALBELO
INKS
PAGES 6-20

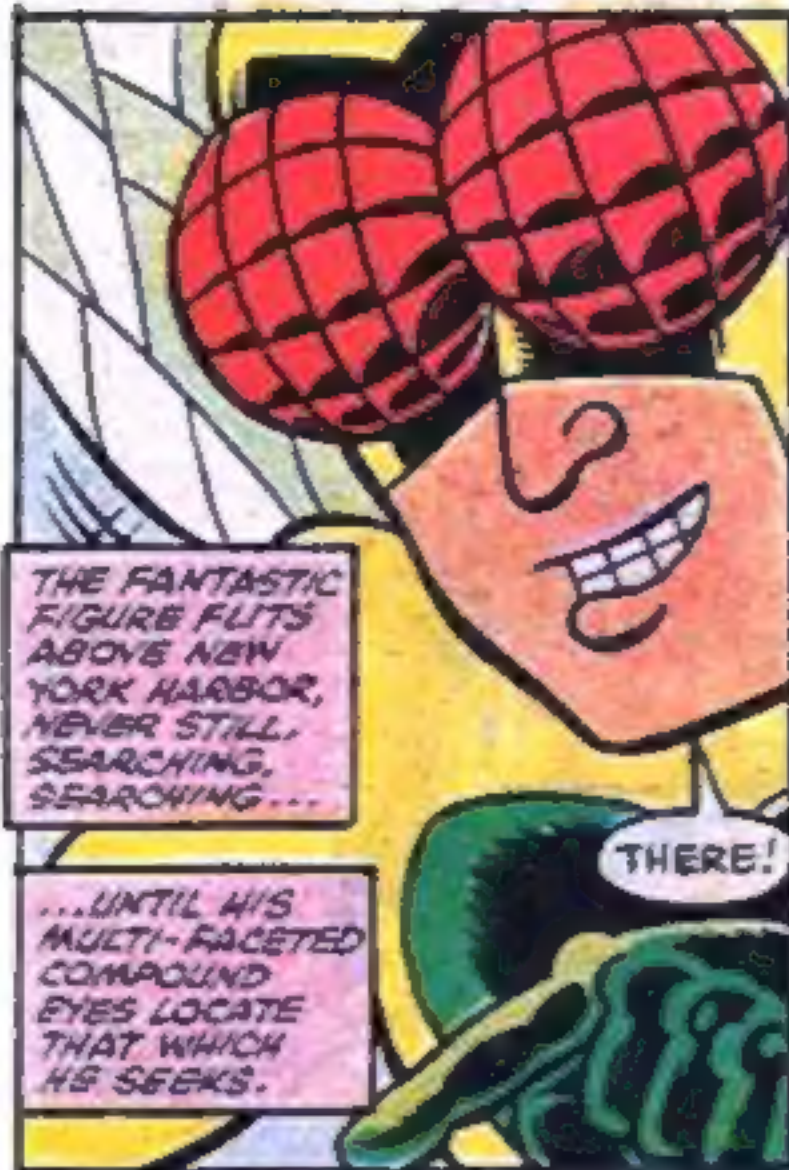
JOE
ROSEN
LETTERER

BOB
SHAREN
COLORIST

DANNY
FINGEROTH
INNOCENT OF
ALL CHARGES

JIM
SHOOTER
CONVENTION-
EERING CHIEF

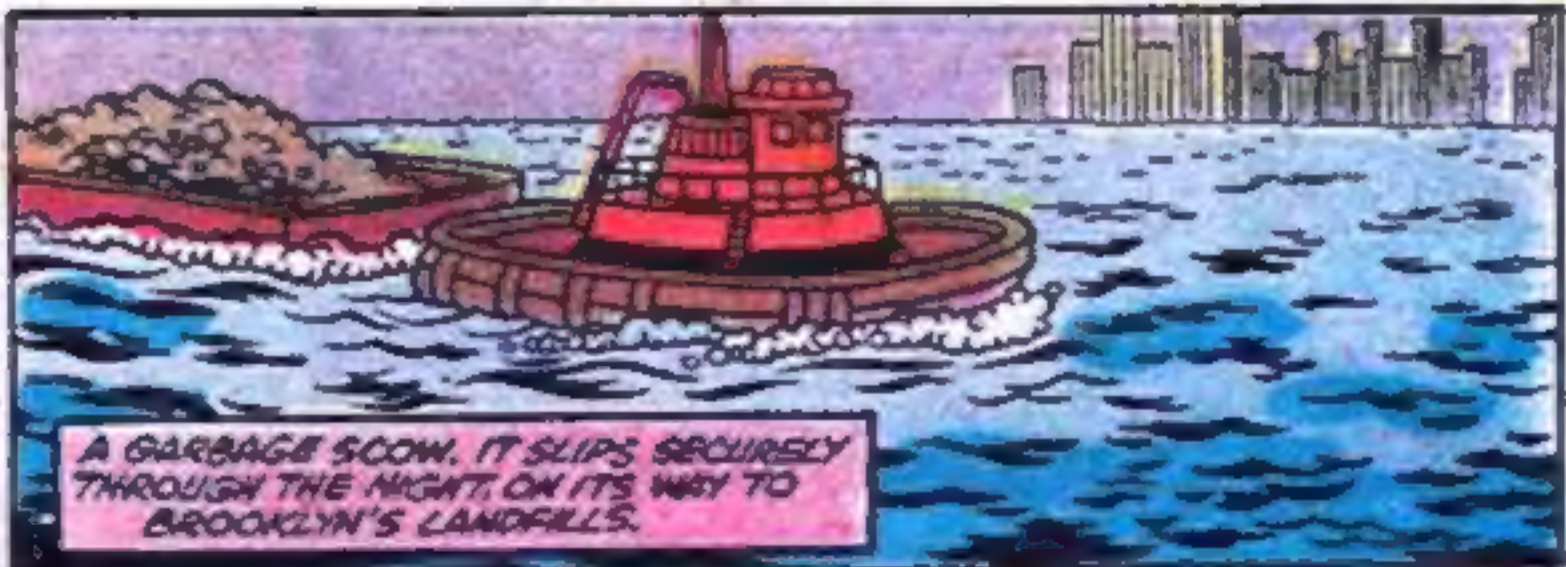
A BOB DENATALE PRODUCTION!



THE FANTASTIC FIGURE FLITS ABOVE NEW YORK HARBOR, NEVER STILL, SEARCHING, SEARCHING...

...UNTIL HIS MULTI-FACETED COMPOUND EYES LOCATE THAT WHICH HE SEEKS.

THERE!



A GARBAGE SCOW. IT SLIPS SECURELY THROUGH THE NIGHT, ON ITS WAY TO BROOKLYN'S LANDFILLS.



YOU HEAR SOMETHIN' UNUSUAL, NORTON?

ON A GARBAGE-RUN, RALPH, ALL YOU'VE EVER HEARS IS THE BUZZIN' O'...



...FLIES!!!

HE STRIKES FROM THE SKIES, SWIFTLY, SUDDENLY...



BUT, THEN, WHO COULD POSSIBLY ANTICIPATE THAT ANYONE WOULD TRY TO HIJACK...GARBAGE?

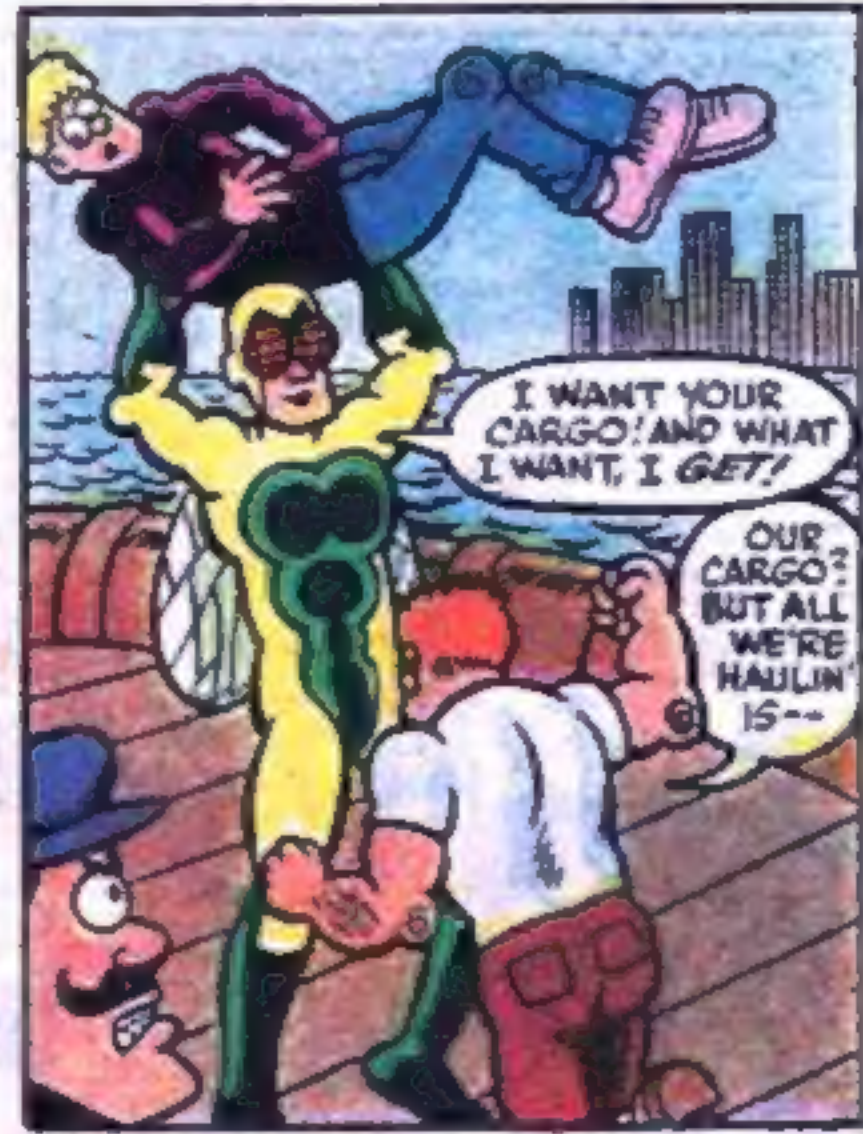
ACH DU LIEBER!*

ZOOT ALORS!*

QUE PASA?*

GET 'IM!

*WELL, NEW YORK IS A MELTING POT-BOB.



I WANT YOUR CARGO! AND WHAT I WANT, I GET!

OUR CARGO? BUT ALL WE'RE HAULIN' IS--



-- GARBAGE??



EXACTLY!

OH, GEEZ! WE'VE GOT US A REAL FRUITCAKE HERE!



OR SHOULD I SAY...FRUIT-FLY??

GGNGGGG!

JERK! YOU CAN'T SNEAK UP BEHIND A GUY WHOSE COMPOUND EYES LET HIM SEE 360°...

--OR WHOSE VIBRATING WINGS CAN CREATE AN ULTRASONIC BACK-LASH TO DRIVE YOU AWAY!

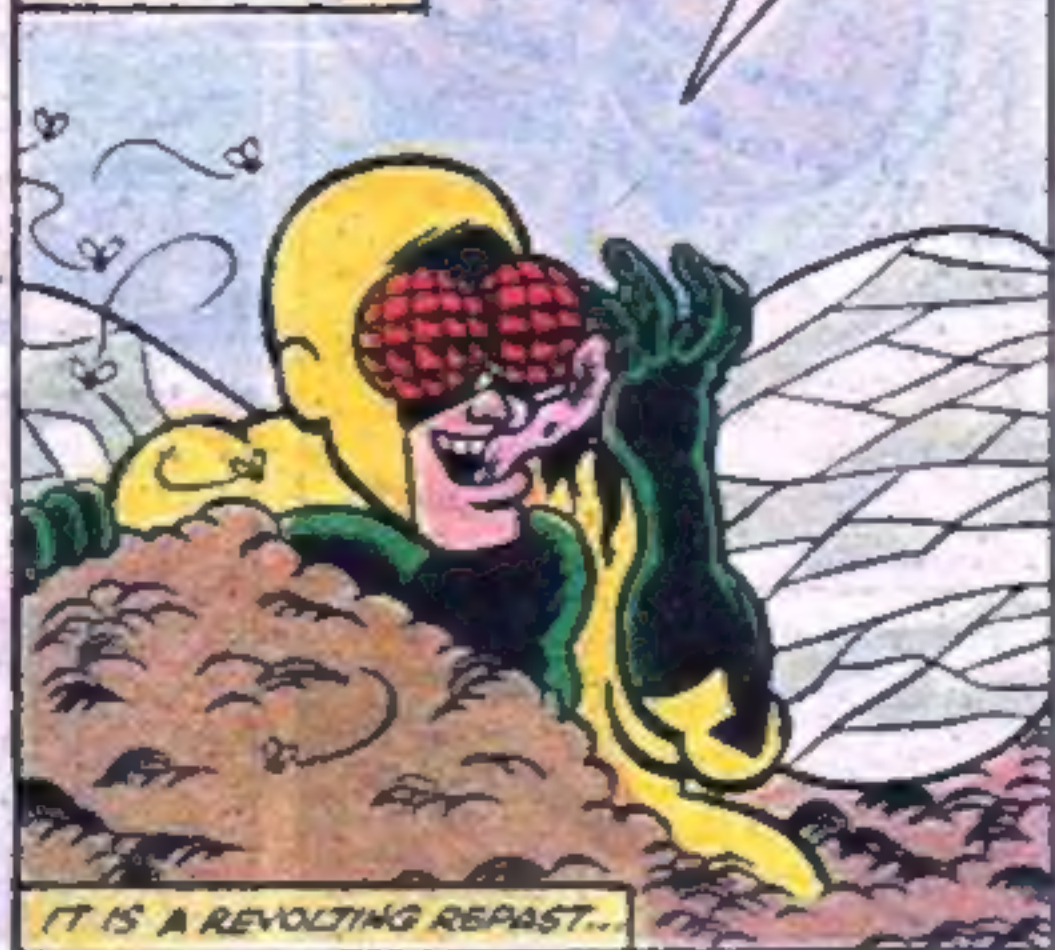


AND NOW, WITH THE CREW
OUTTA COMMISSION--



--THE HUMAN FLY
CAN FEAST!

AND FEAST THE
FEARSOME FLY
DOES, ON OTHERS'
LEAVINGS, CAST-
OFFS, SCRAPS.



THIS IS MY
DOMAIN! I'M
LORD OF THE
FLIES!

IT IS A REVOLTING REFEAST...



NO! WHAT
AM I DOING?!



WHAT HUMANITY THERE IS LEFT
IN THIS INSIDIOUS INSECT-MAN
REASSERTS ITSELF, AND THE FLY
IS WRACKED BY A TIDAL WAVE OF
SELF-DISGUST...

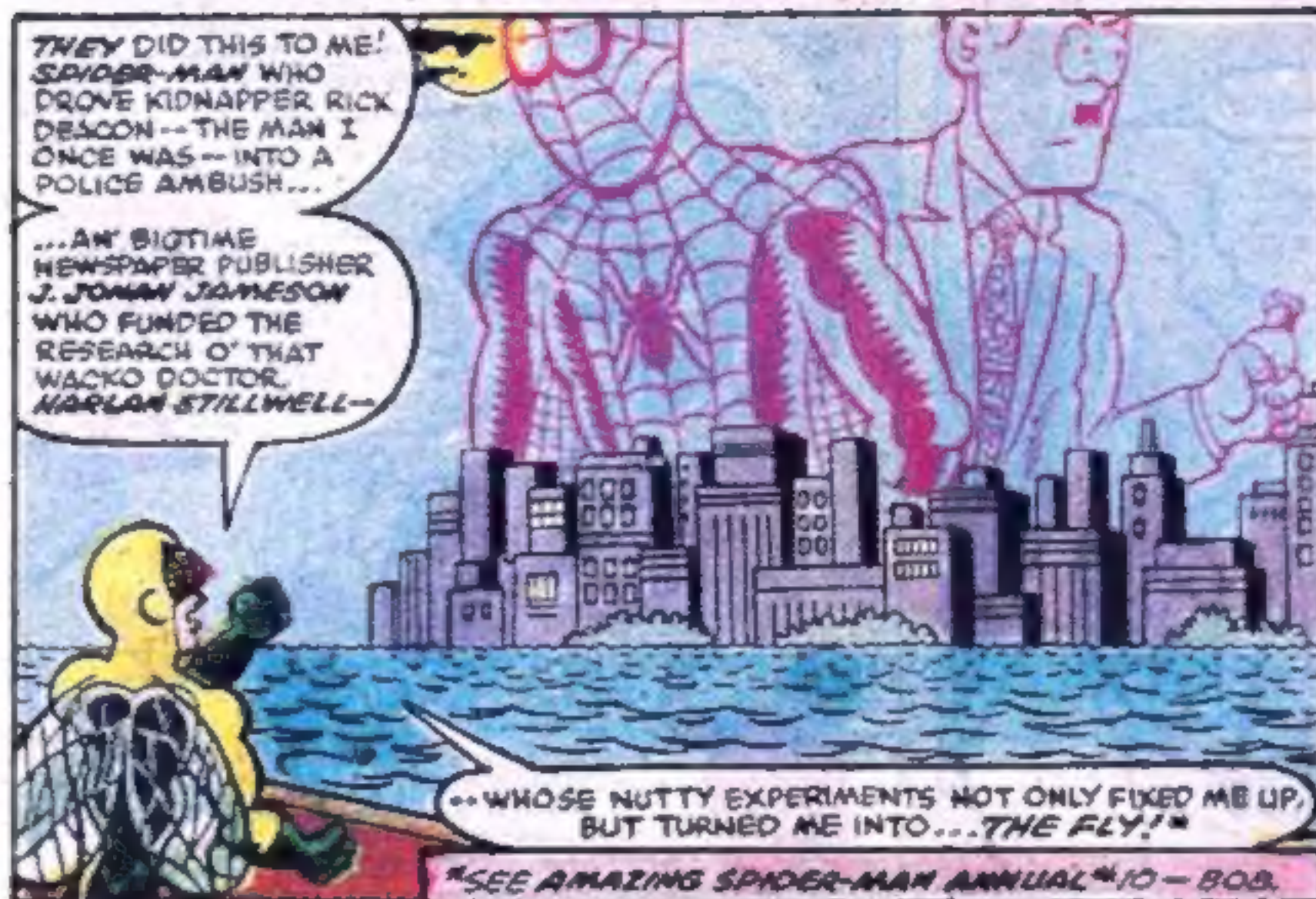
PTUI! PTUI!
UGH!



...AND CRIES HIS PITIFUL ANGUISH
TO THE NIGHT.

WHAT'S HAPPENIN' TO ME?
I'M... DISGUSTING! INSTEAD
OF JUST POSSESSIN' THE
PROPORTIONATE POWERS
OF A FLY, I'M VIRTUALLY
BECOMING AN INSECT!

IN MIND AS WELL AS
BODY, I'M NO BETTER
THAN A... BUG!



THEY DID THIS TO ME!
SPIDER-MAN WHO
DROVE KIDNAPPER RICK
DEACON-- THE MAN I
ONCE WAS -- INTO A
POLICE AMBUSH...

...AN' BIGTIME
NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER
J. JONAH JAMESON
WHO FUNDED THE
RESEARCH O' THAT
WACKO DOCTOR,
HARLAN STILLWELL--

--WHOSE NUTTY EXPERIMENTS NOT ONLY FIXED ME UP,
BUT TURNED ME INTO... THE FLY!

*SEE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN ANNUAL #10 -- BOB.



I KILLED
STILLWELL--
BUT THE
OTHER TWO...
THEY'VE NEVER
PAID FOR
WHAT THEY
DID!

TONIGHT
THEY
WILL!

AND, WHILE ABUZZING THE
FLY DOES GO...

...LEAVE US TURN OUR ATTENTION TO TWO OTHER COSTUMED CHARACTERS AS THEIR STAR-CROSSED ROMANCE CARRIES THEM THROUGH THE NIGHT.

SPIDEY, PLEASE STOP SWINGING AWAY FROM ME!

WE'VE GOT TO TALK!

HE, OF COURSE, IS THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN.

SHE-- A FORMER SECOND-STORY WOMAN GONE STRAIGHT-- IS THE BEAUTIFUL BLACK CAT.

THEY ARE VERY MUCH IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER...

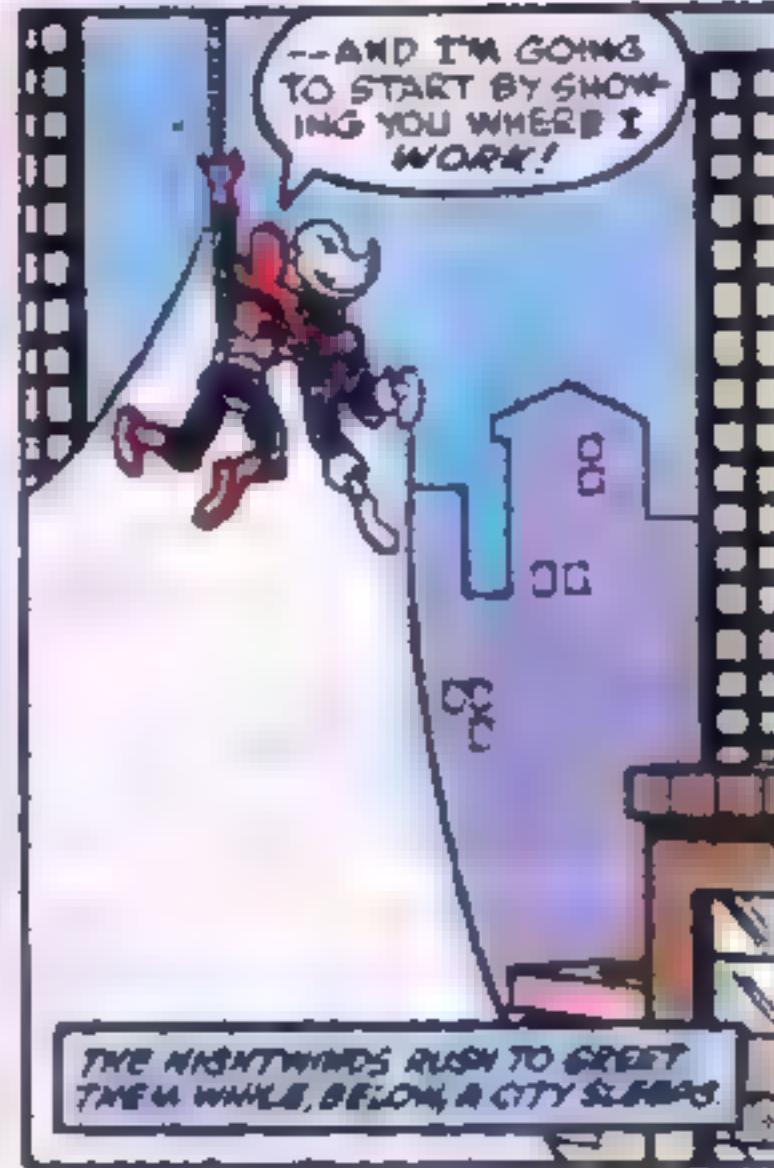
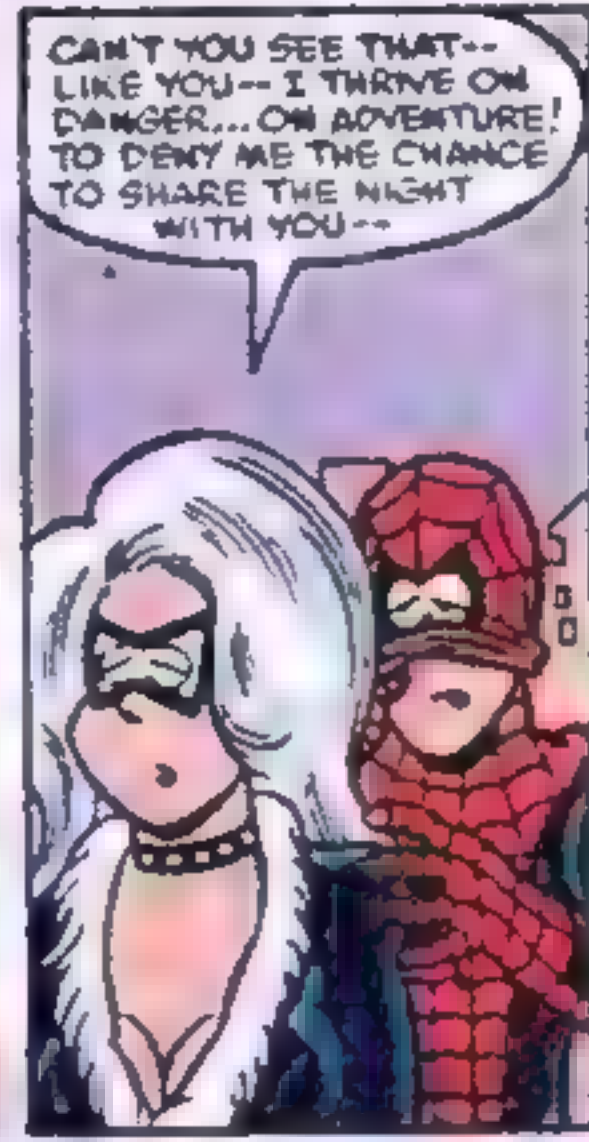
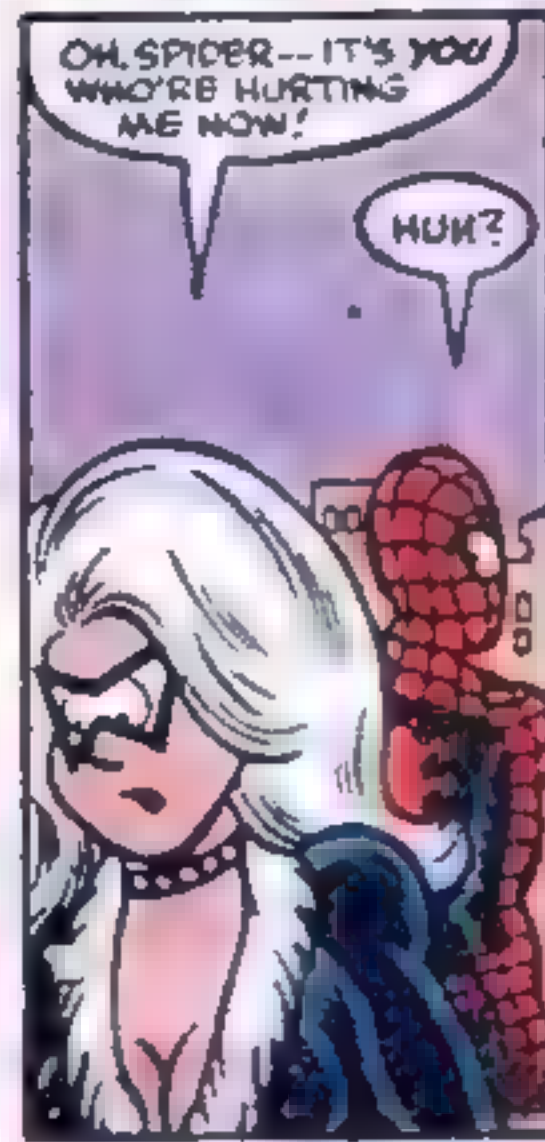
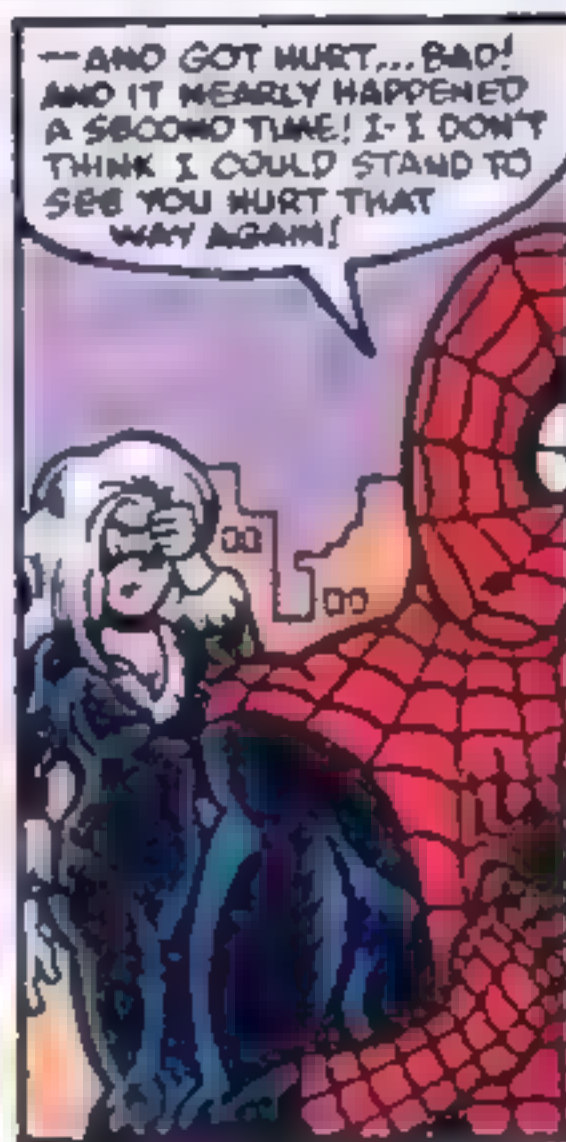
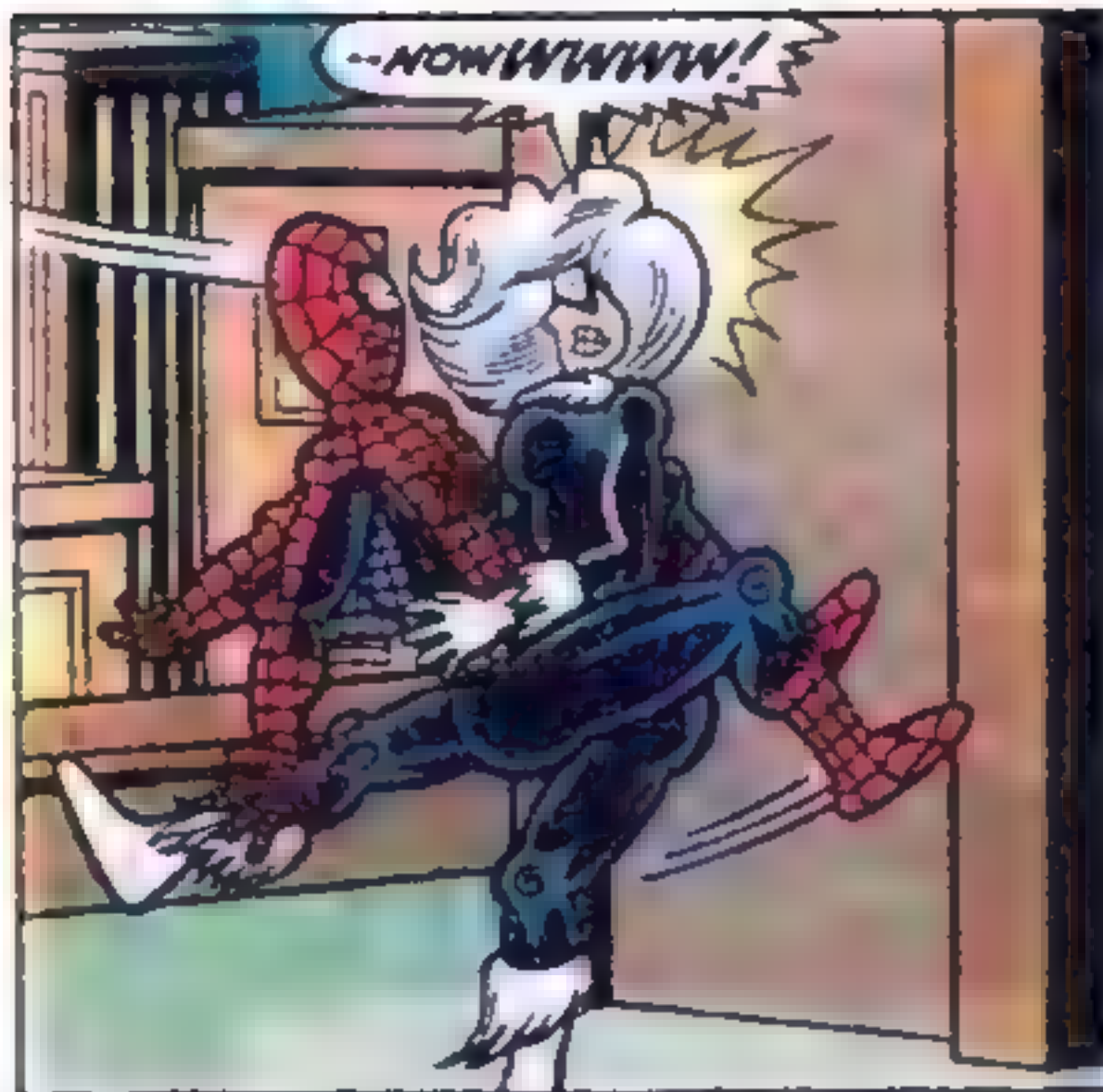
...NOT THAT YOU COULD TELL FROM THE WAY THEY'RE ACTING.

LEAVE ME ALONE, CAT! I'VE GOT TO THINK...

YOU'VE BEEN THINKING ALL NIGHT!

TOO MUCH THOUGHT'LL GIVE YOU A MIGRAINE! BUT SOMETHING'S BOTHERING YOU ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP, AND I WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT IS--

CAT! YOU'RE IN MY WAY!



CORRECTION:
NOT ALL THE
CITY SLUMBERS.

KLAK-KLAKITY-KLAK-DRIING!

THIS IS A GREAT
METROPOLITAN
NEWSPAPER.

DAILY BUGLE

IN FACT, IT'S HIS GREAT
METROPOLITAN NEWS-
PAPER.

HE'S ITS PUB-
LISHER AND
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF...

...J. JONAS
JAMESON.

But I was...am...and always will be...
a reporter! My beat is New York--the Big
Apple--a city I love to its core.

KLAK

KLAK-KLAK-DRIING!

Sometimes
though the
core is
rotten...

HMM. I SEEM
TO REMEMBER
HAVING WRITTEN
THOSE LINES
SOMEWHERE
BEFORE.

But I was...
and always will be...
a reporter! My beat is New York--
the Big Apple--a city I love to its
core. Sometimes, the
core is rotten...

WELL, IT'S A
GOOD REPORTER
WHO KNOWS
WHEN TO GO
WITH A PIECE--

—OR
CONVINCE
IT TO THE
CIRCULAR
FILE.

AND WHILE EVERY-
ONE'S FAVORITE
PUBLISHER SITS
AND WONDERES
WHITHER HIS
NUSE HAS FLOWN...

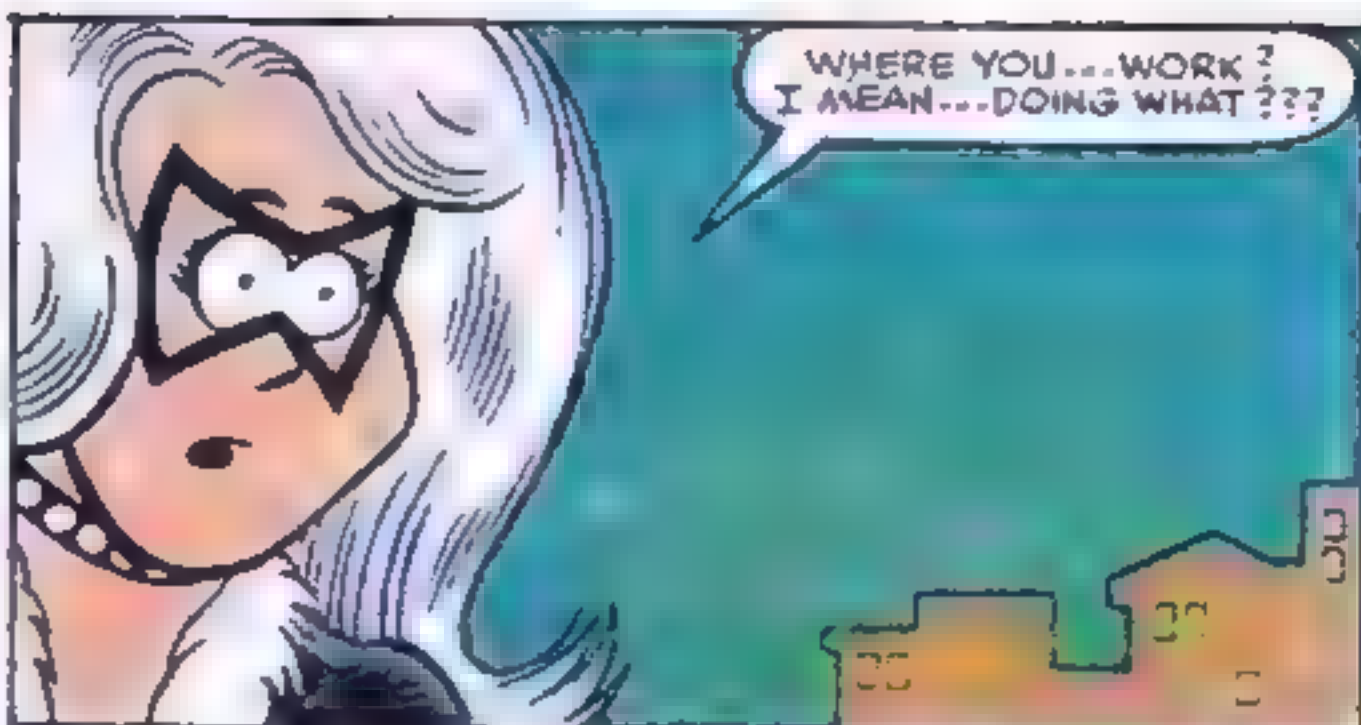
...THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN
LEADS HIS LADY-LOVE TO HIS ALTER
EGO'S PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT.

WELL...
THERE
IT IS!

THERE
WHAT
IS?

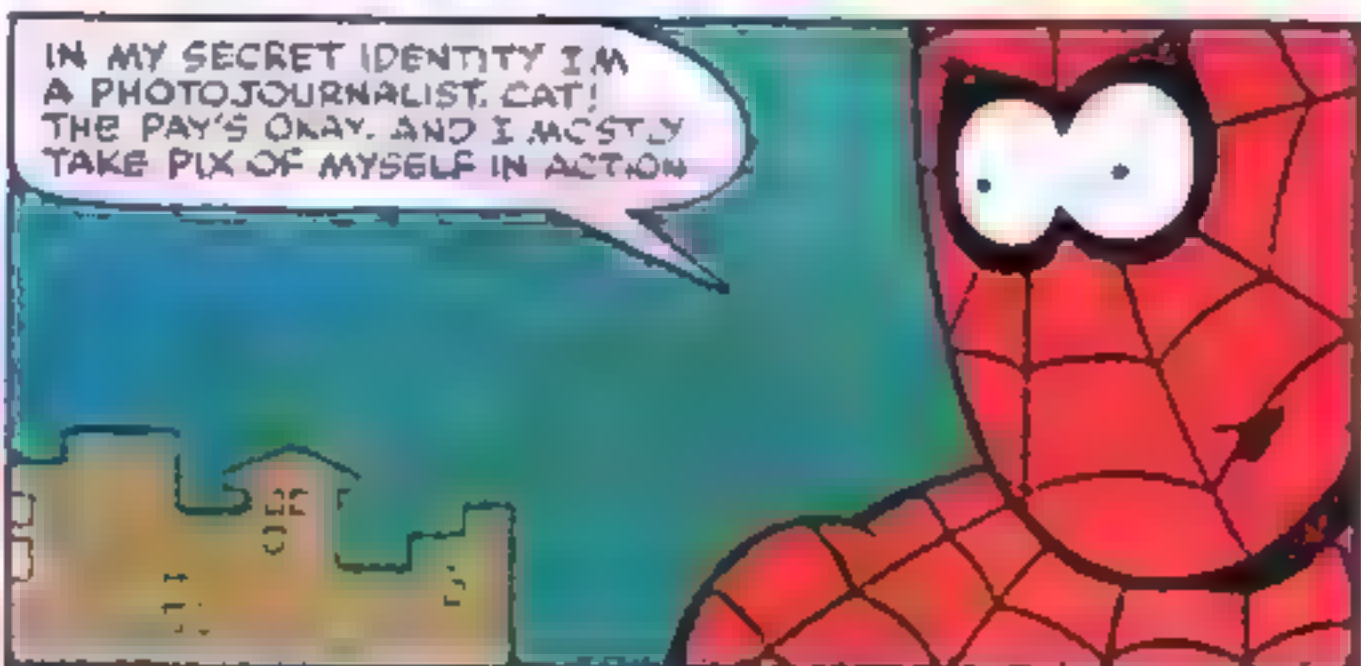
DAILY

THE DAILY BUGLE
BUILDING--THE OFFICES
OF THE GREAT METRO-
POLITAN NEWSPAPER
WHERE I WORK!



WHERE YOU...WORK?
I MEAN...DOING WHAT???

IN MY SECRET IDENTITY I'M
A PHOTOJOURNALIST, CAT!
THE PAY'S OKAY, AND I MOSTLY
TAKE PIX OF MYSELF IN ACTION



WAIT! STOP! HOLD IT! SECRET IDENTITY?
PHOTOJOURNALIST? I-I DON'T GET IT!

I MEAN, ISN'T IT ENOUGH
JUST BEING SPIDER-MAN???

WELL, GEE--I
HAD ANOTHER LIFE
BEFORE I WAS
BITTEN BY A
RADIOACTIVE
SPIDER, CAT!

THAT LIFE DIDN'T CEASE WHEN
I GAINED SPIDER-POWERS BUT
BEING SPIDER-MAN SORT OF
GAVE ME A WAY TO DO GOOD
AND A SAFETY VALVE--

--A WAY
TO CUT
LOOSE--
DENIED TO
ORDINARY
PEOPLE!

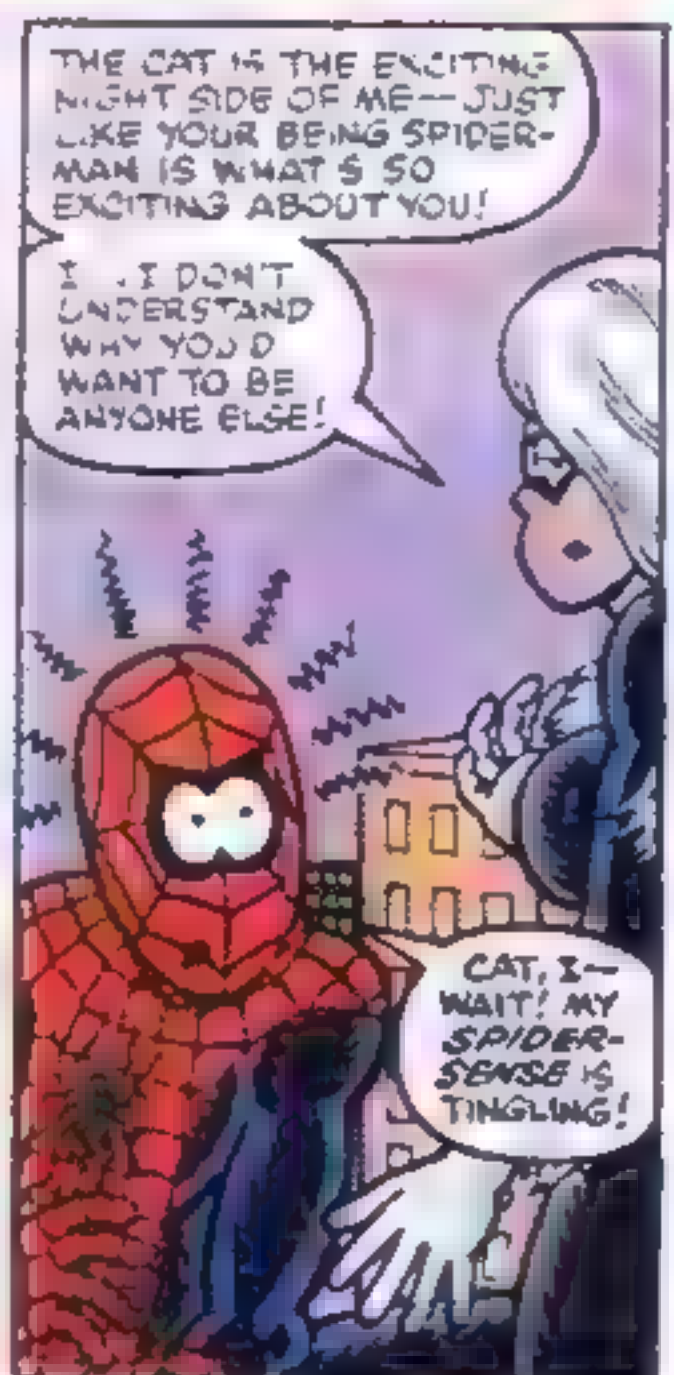
I . GUESS I
JUST DON'T SEE
IT I MEAN I
KNOW I'M FELICIA
HARDY--



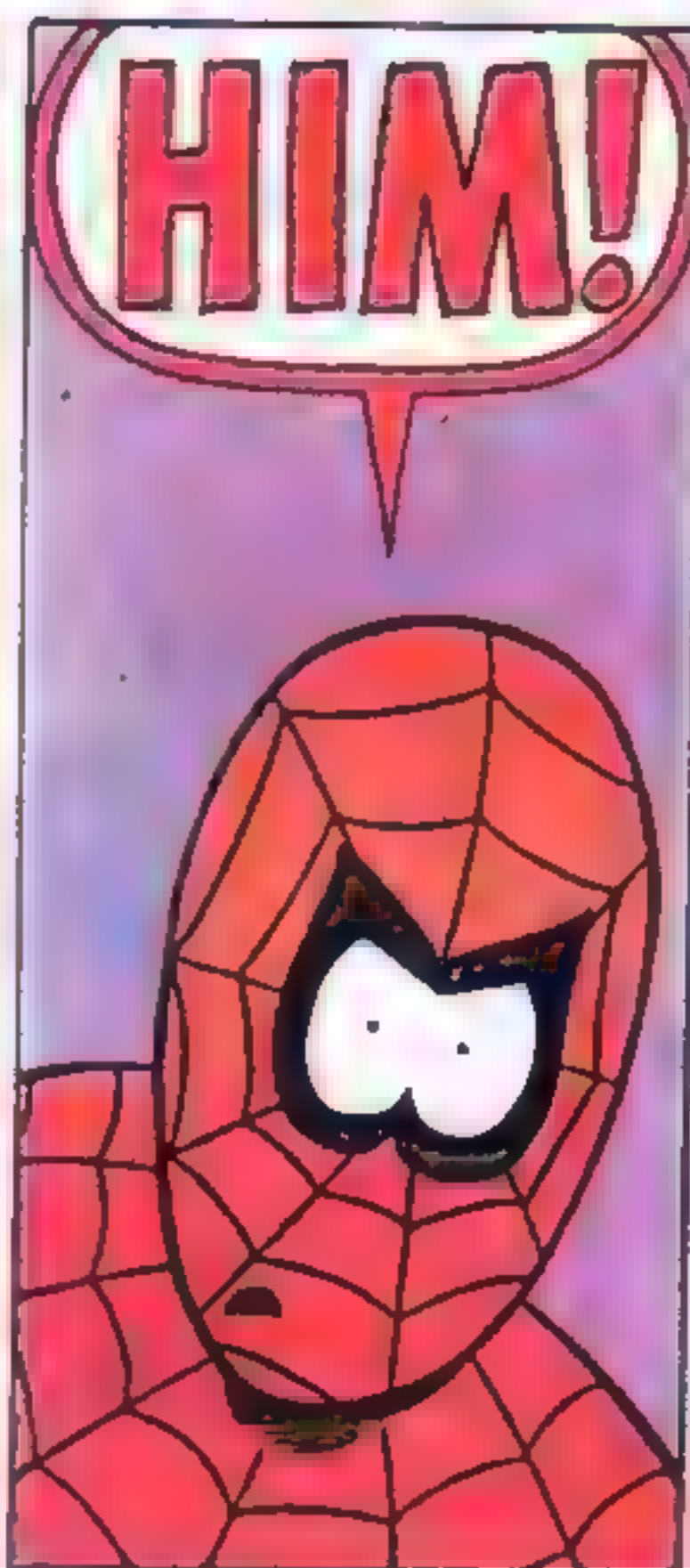
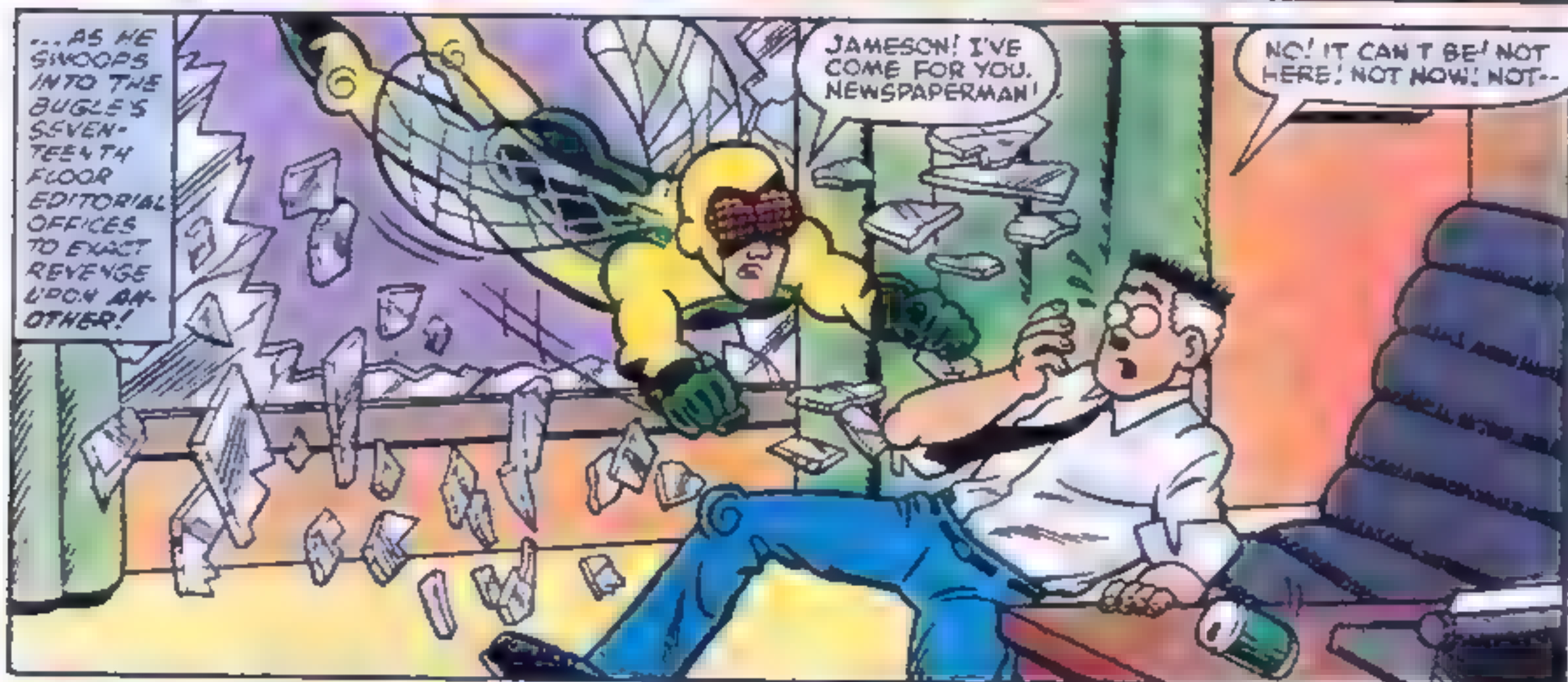
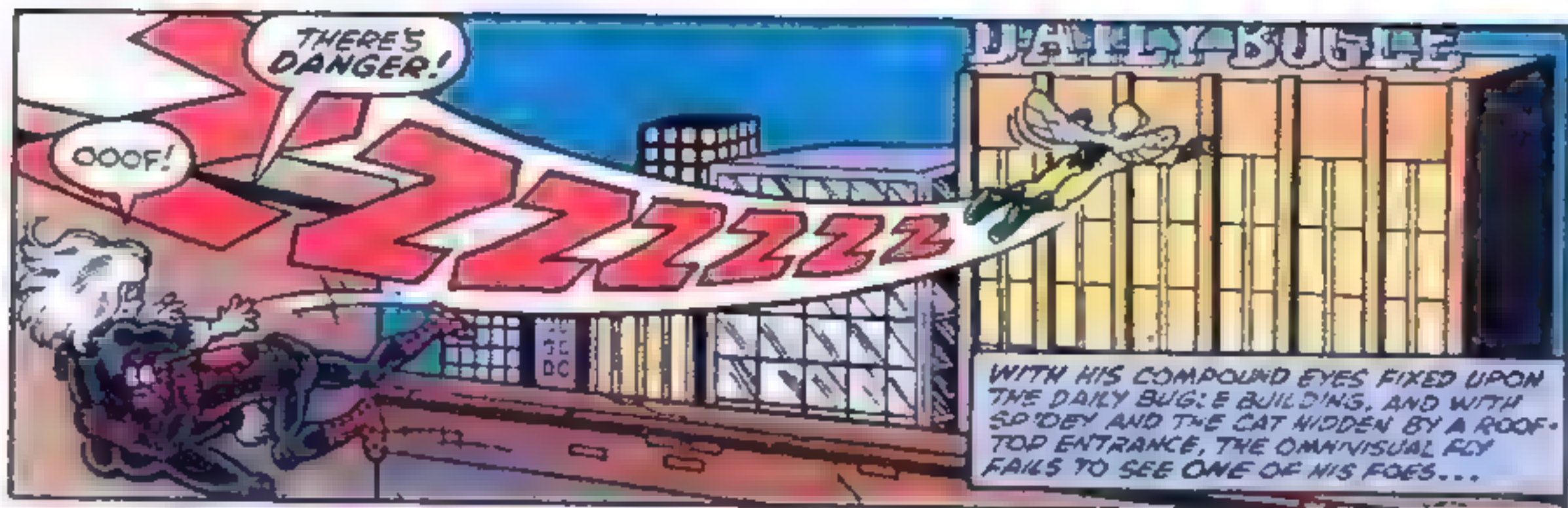
-- BUT, IN
MY MIND
I'M THE
BLACK CAT
TWENTY-
FOUR HOURS
A DAY!

THE CAT IS THE EXCITING
NIGHT SIDE OF ME-- JUST
LIKE YOUR BEING SPIDER-
MAN IS WHAT'S SO
EXCITING ABOUT YOU!

I . I DON'T
UNDERSTAND
WHY YOU'D
WANT TO BE
ANYONE ELSE!



CAT, I--
WAIT! MY
SPIDER-
SENSE IS
TINGLING!



AN OLD ENEMY OF MINE, CAT-THE FLY. AND HE HATES SPIDER-MAN AND JONAH JAMESON MORE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WORLD.

AS THE WEB-SLINGER SHOTS HIS WEB, HE RECALLS HOW THAT HATRED WAS BORN...

ONCE THE FLY WAS RICK DEACON, A PATHOLOGICAL PAROLEE WHO'D RETURNED TO CRIME.

YOU'RE TRAPPED, DEACON!

EITHER I LEAVE HERE, ALIVE, WALL-CRAWLER --OR MY HOST-AGE DIES!

BUT, ONCE OUT-SIDE...

SPIDER-MAN SAVED THE HOSTAGE

-- AND THE POLICE GOT DEACON.

WE GOT HIM, CAPTAIN. NOBODY COULD'VE LIVED THROUGH THAT.

IF ONLY HE'D LISTENED TO REASON AND SURRENDERED QUIETLY.

BUT DEACON DID SURVIVE... JUST BARELY.

DYING ON HIS FEET, HE MADE IT TO THE LAB OF DR. MARLAN STILLWELL, WHERE HE OVERHEARD...

MAKE ME A HERO WHO CAN RIVAL SPIDER-MAN-- HIS SPIDER-SENSE, HIS ABILITY TO CLING TO WALLS, HIS SPEED AND SPIDER-STRENGTH...

...AND I'LL MAKE YOU RICH!

I WILL TRY.

AND WHEN JAMESON LEFT...

MAKE ME LAUGHING-BOY'S SUPER-STAR, DOC!

GIAMME THE POWER TO PAY BACK SPIDER-MAN!

STILLWELL DID, ALTERING DEACON'S VERY PHYSIOLOGY, RECODING HIS GENETIC MAKEUP...

...UNTIL LOOSING UPON THE WORLD... THE HUMAN FLY!

THE FLY SLEW STILLWELL...

... ONLY TO HAVE HIS HEAD HANDED TO HIM IN HIS VERY FIRST BATTLE WITH SPIDER-MAN!



THE FLY
KIDNAPPED
MY BOSS
ONCE BEFORE
TO FORCE ME
TO FIGHT
HIM!

DAILY BUGLE

SO HERE I GO
AGAIN! AS BIG A
THORN AS JAMESON'S
BEEN IN MY SIDE,
EVEN HE DESERVES
BETTER THAN TO
BE SNUFFED
BY THE FLY!

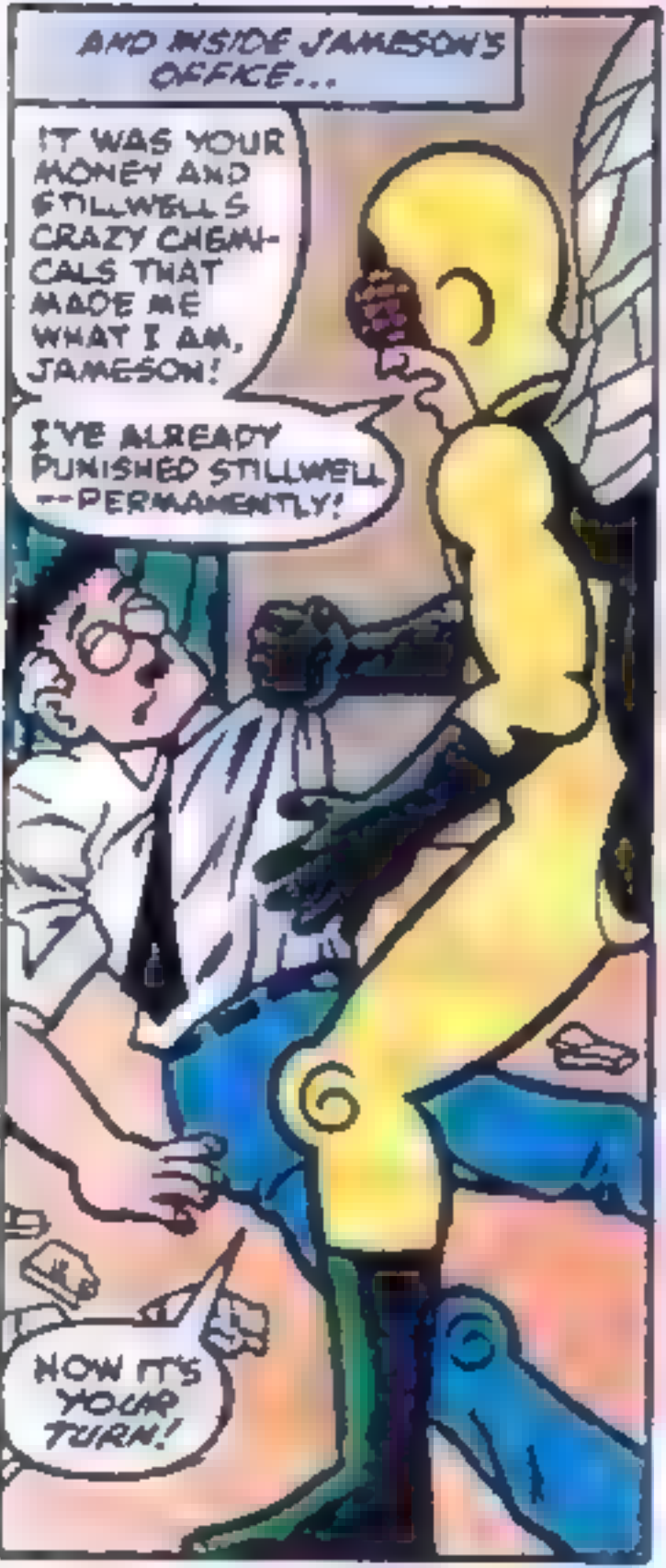
YOU STAY HERE, CAT.
THINGS COULD GET
DANGEROUS.



STAY BEHIND? NO WAY!
A MINUTE AGO YOU
TOLD ME YOU WERE
GOING TO SHARE
EVERYTHING!

WE'RE A
TEAM NOW,
LOVER--AND
YOU'D BETTER
GET USED
TO IT!

A CHILL GRIPS
SPIDER-MAN.
HE PRAYS THAT
JONAH'S IS THE
ONLY LIFE HE'LL
HAVE TO SAVE
TONIGHT.

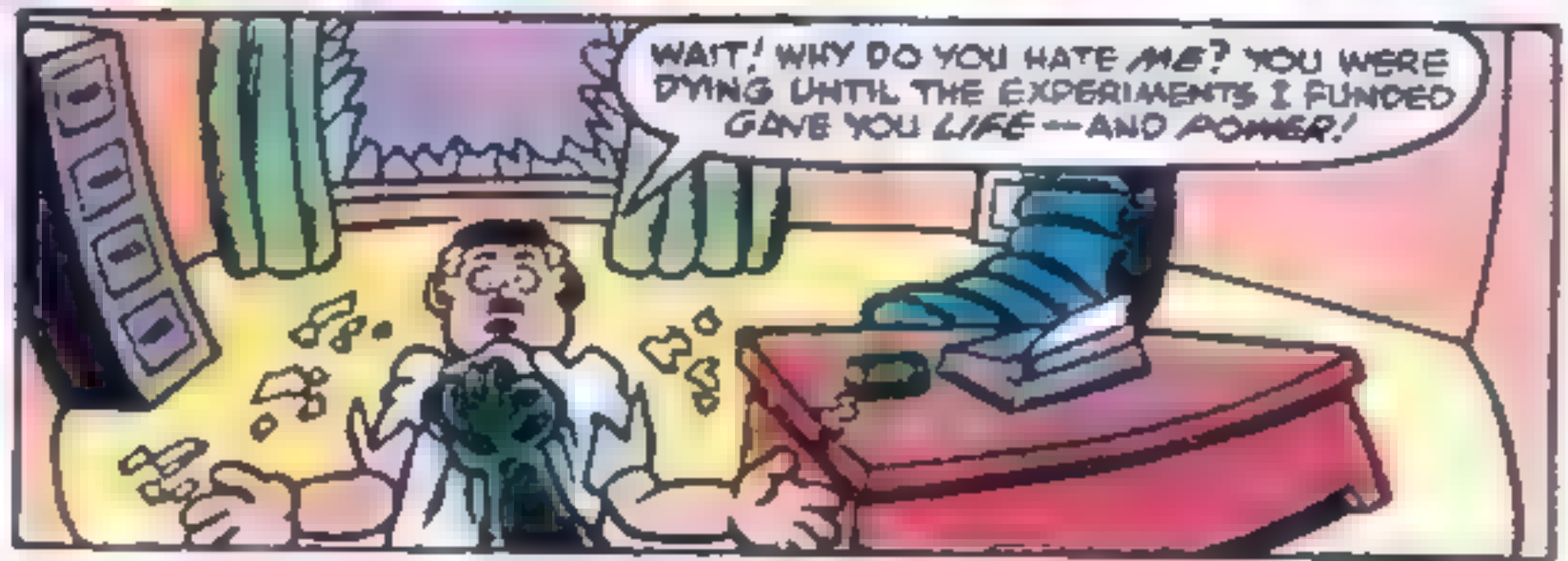


AND INSIDE JAMESON'S
OFFICE...

IT WAS YOUR
MONEY AND
STILLWELL'S
CRAZY CHEM-
ICALS THAT
MADE ME
WHAT I AM,
JAMESON!

I'VE ALREADY
PUNISHED STILLWELL
--PERMANENTLY!

NOW IT'S
YOUR
TURN!



WAIT! WHY DO YOU HATE ME? YOU WERE
DYING UNTIL THE EXPERIMENTS I FUNDED
GAVE YOU LIFE --AND POWER!



BUT
THEY
ALSO
MADE
ME MORE
BUG THAN
MAN!

NOW I'M
GONNA...

SUDDENLY,
HE DROPS
JONAH...



... HIS AT-
TENTION
DISTRACTED
BY...

...GARBAGE.

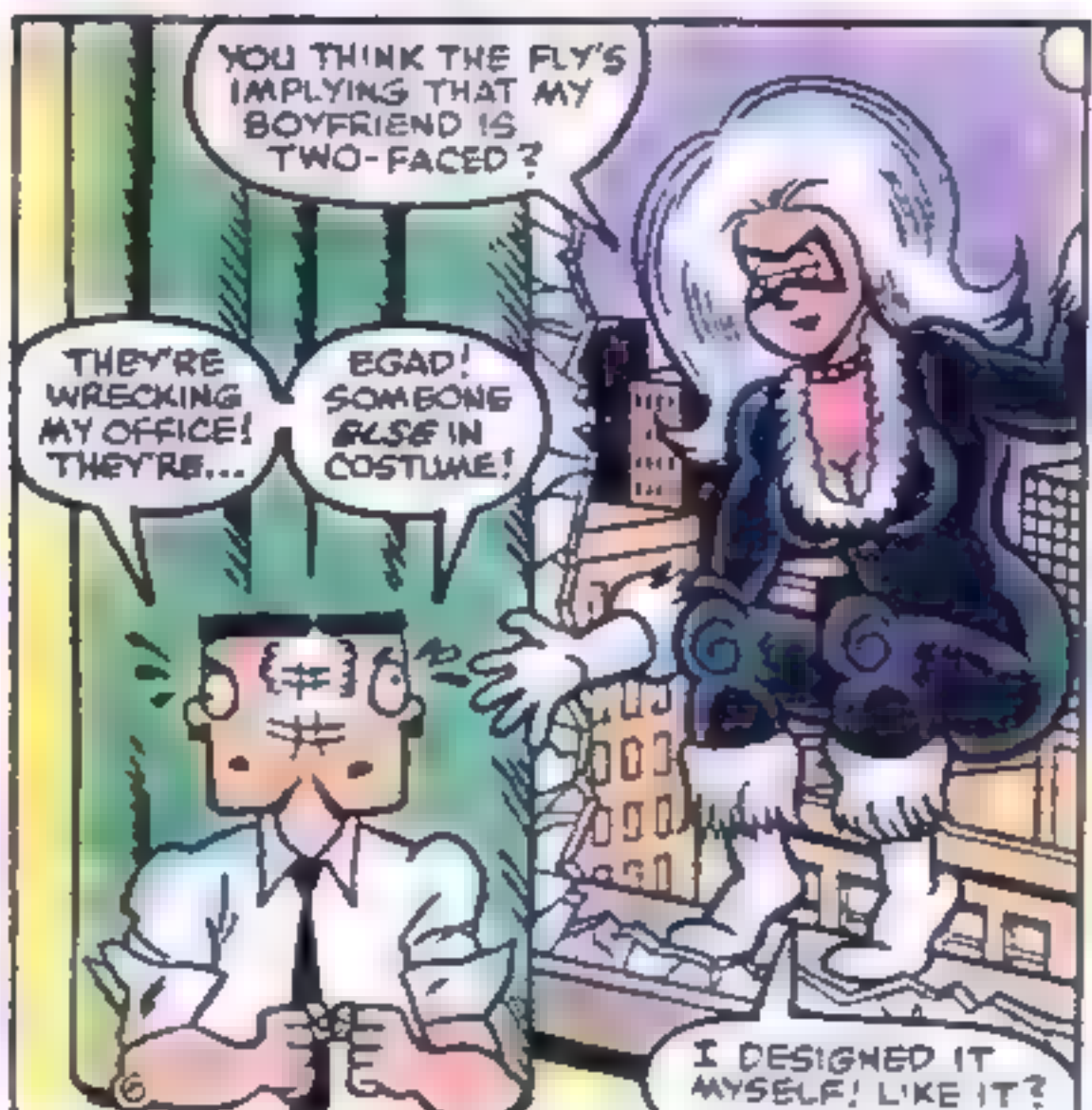
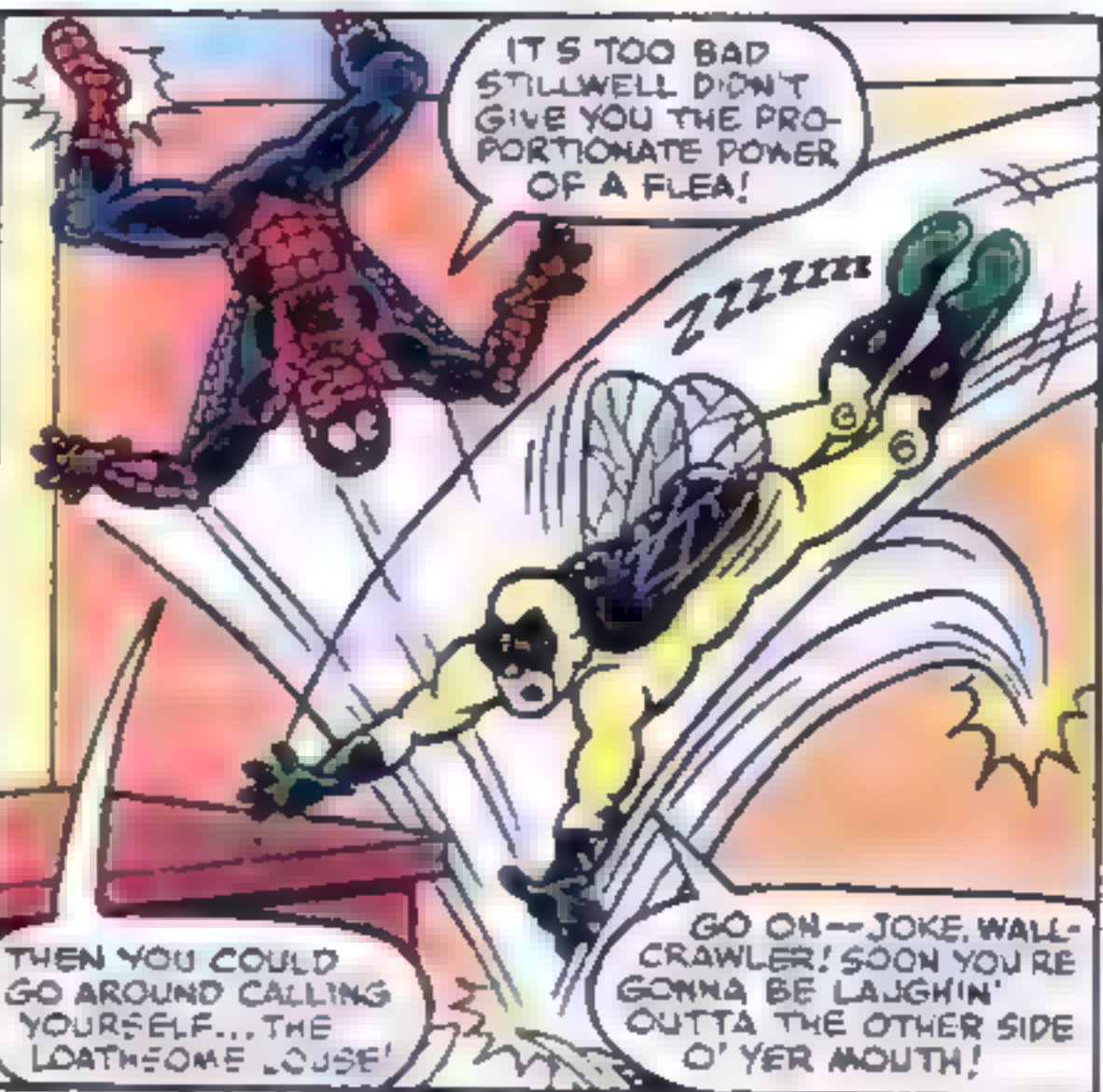
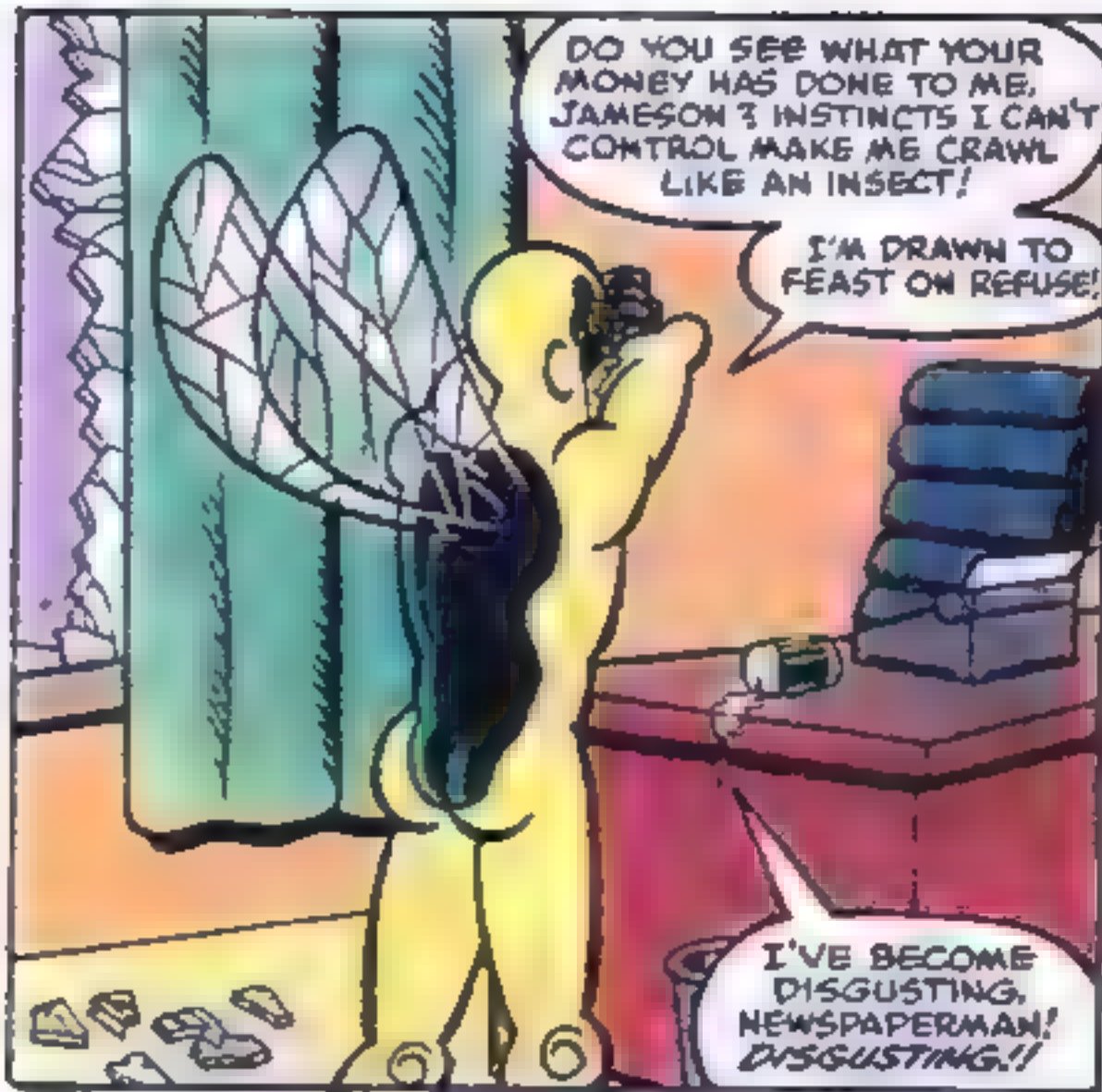


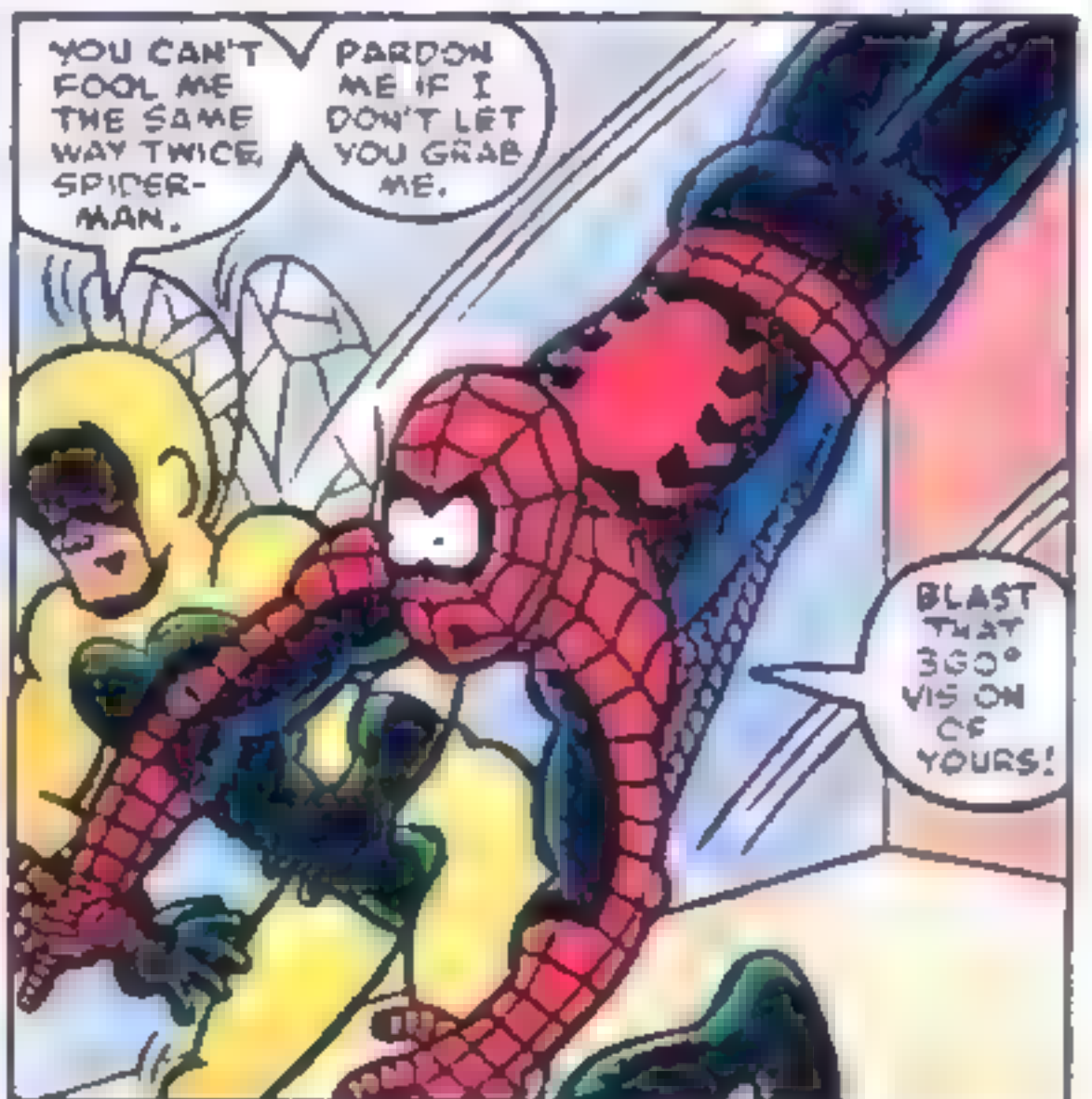
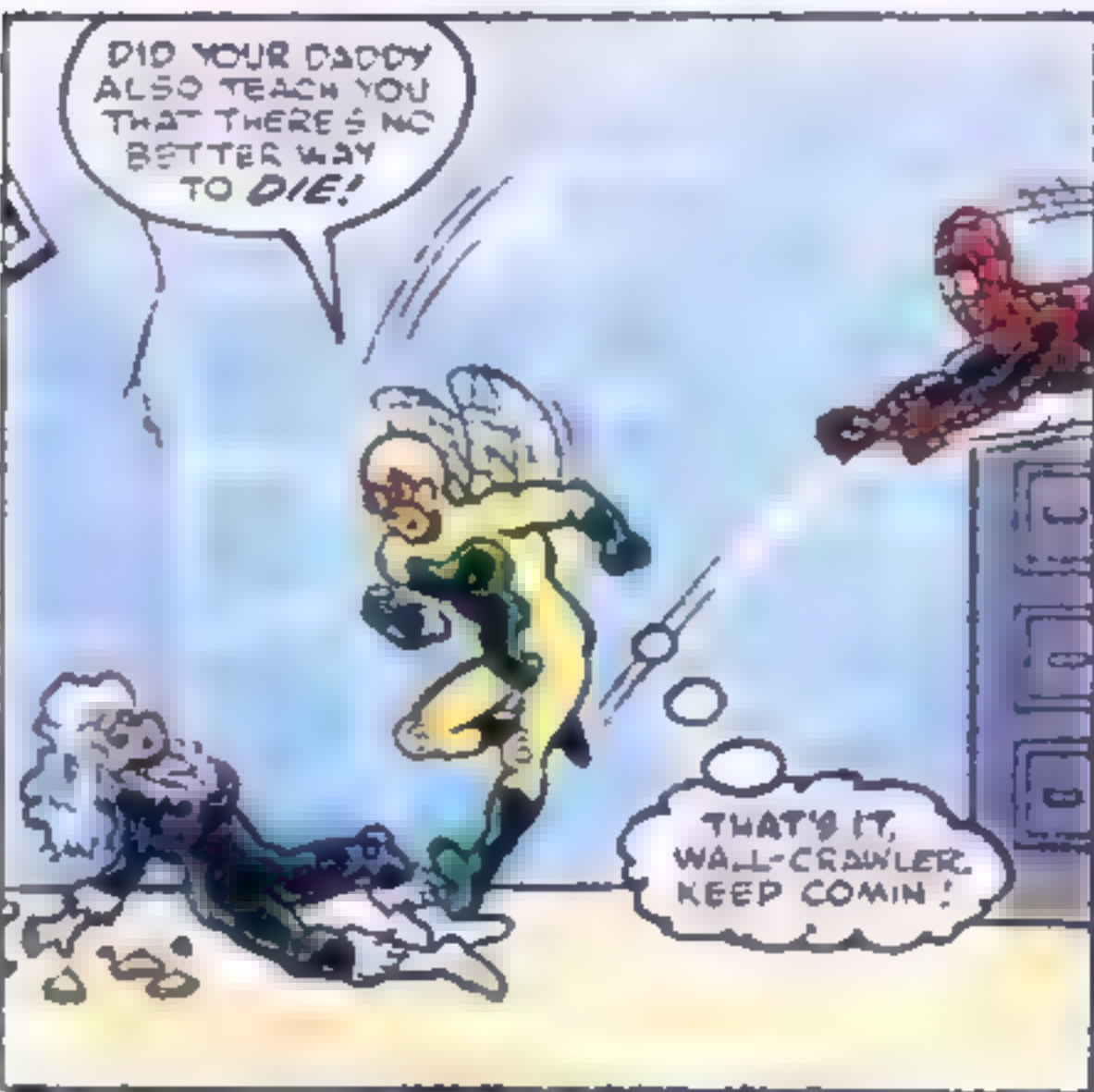
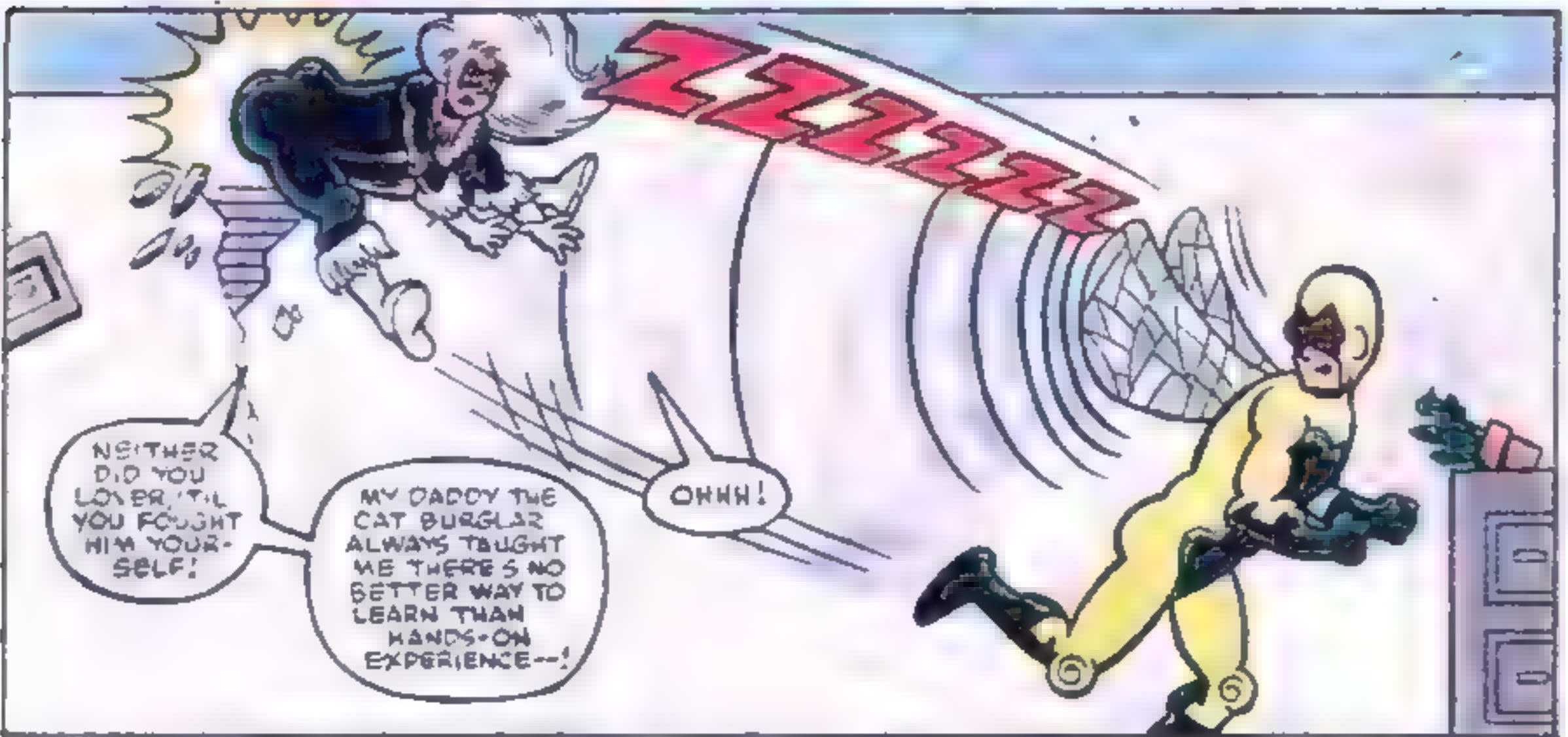
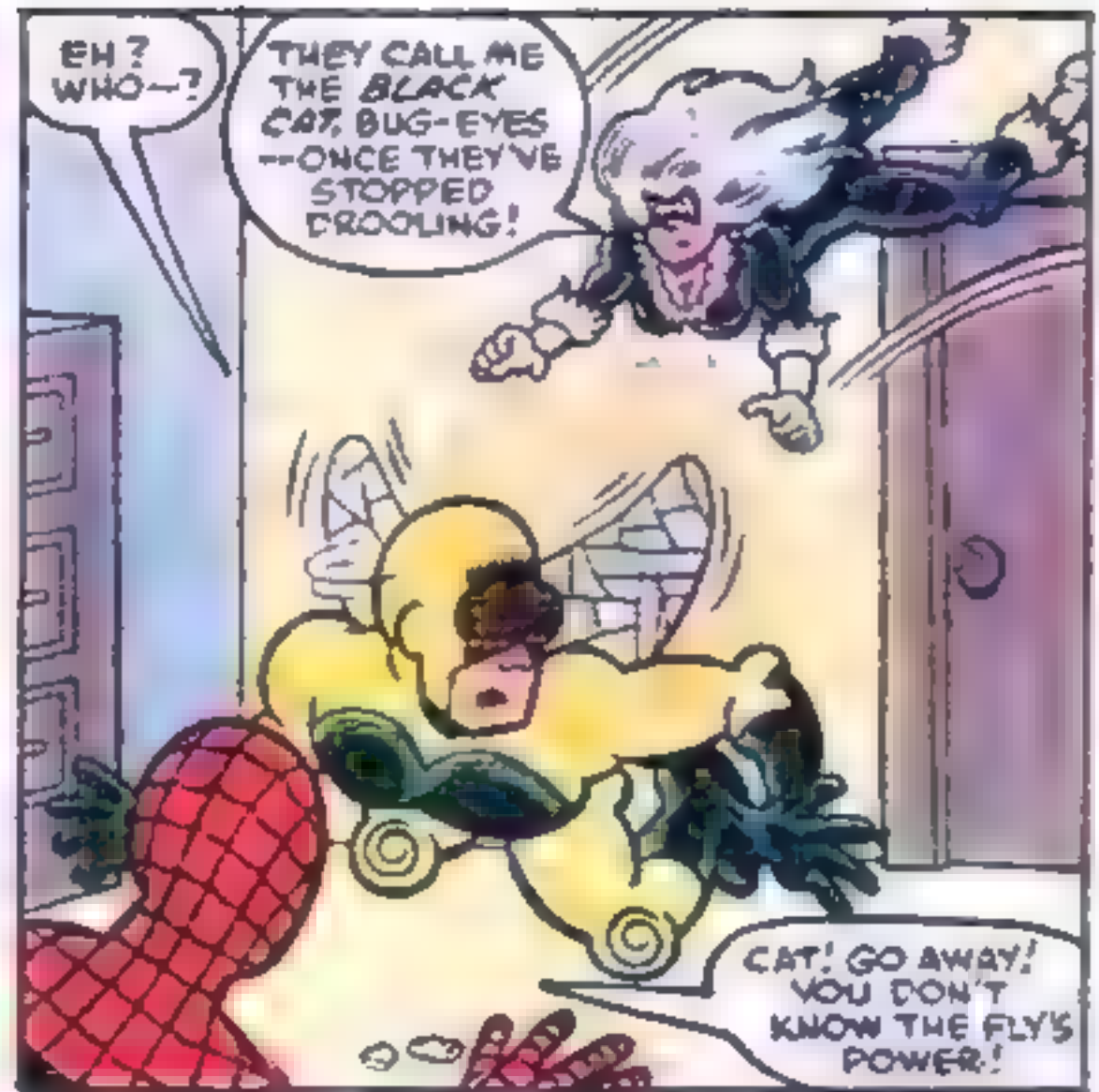
I-I-I...
I CAN'T
RESIST
IT!



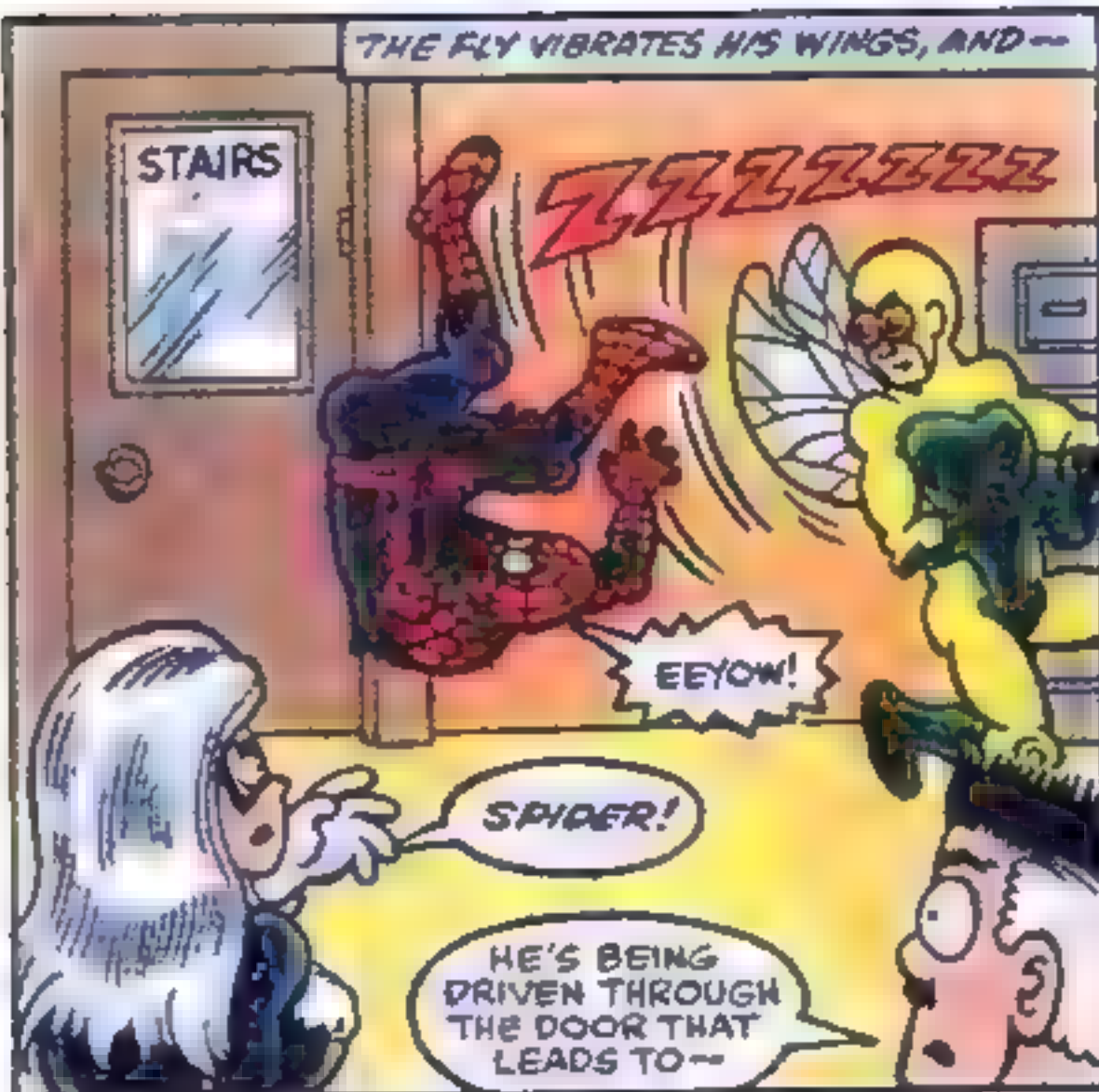
GAD! THE FLYS
BEEN DRAWN
TO THAT
SPILLED
SODA--

--JUST
LIKE A
REAL FLY
WOULD BE!

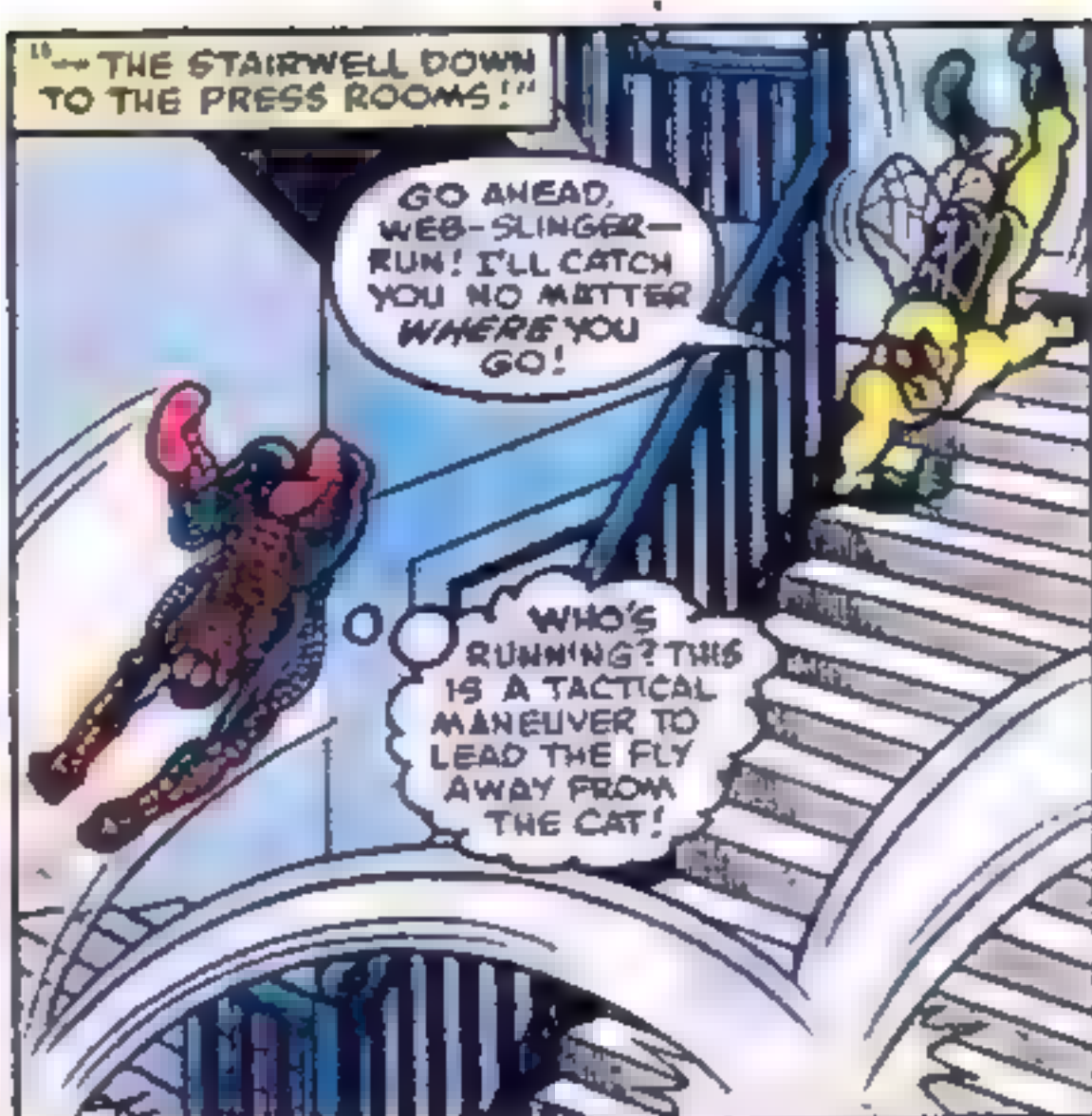




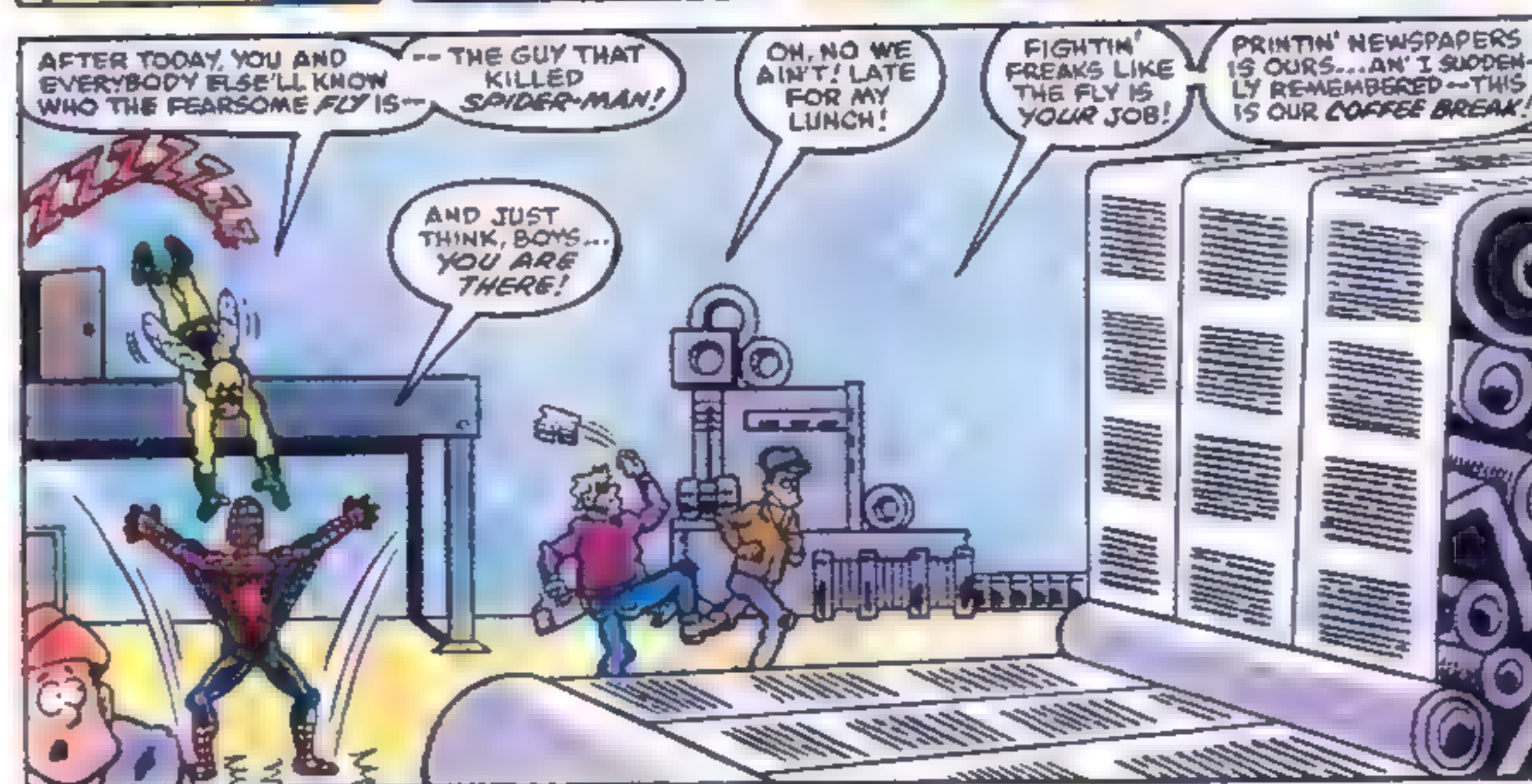
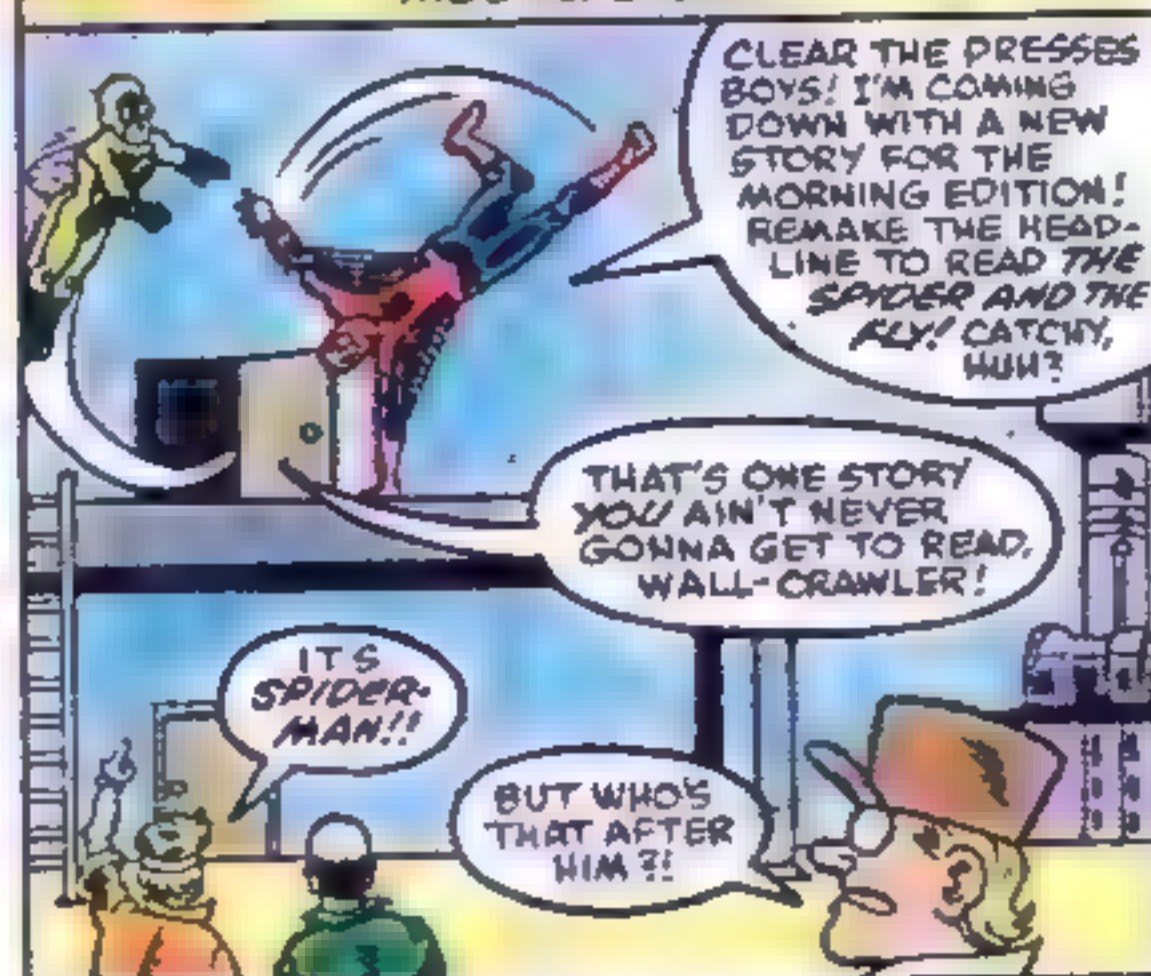
THE FLY VIBRATES HIS WINGS, AND--

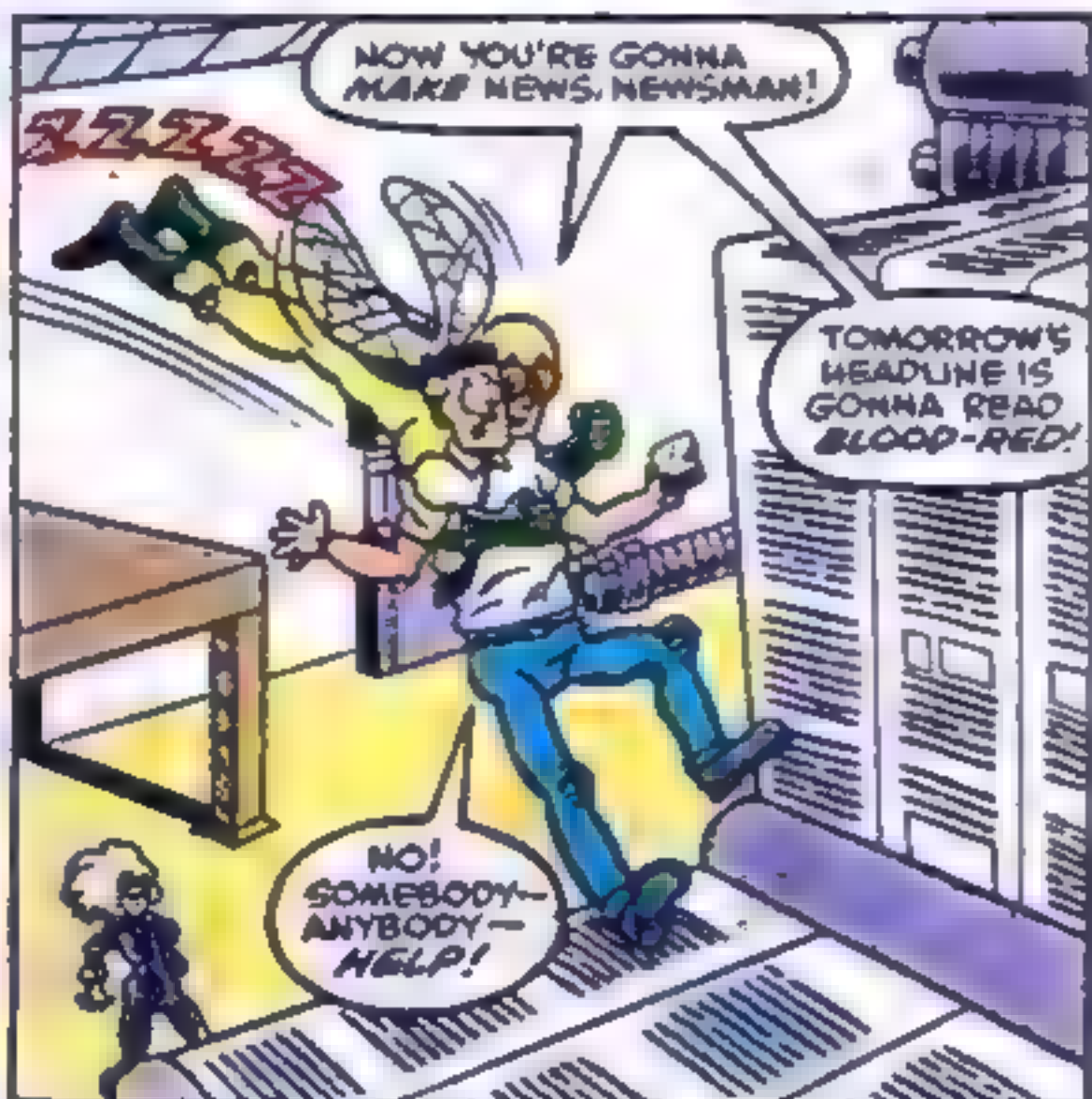
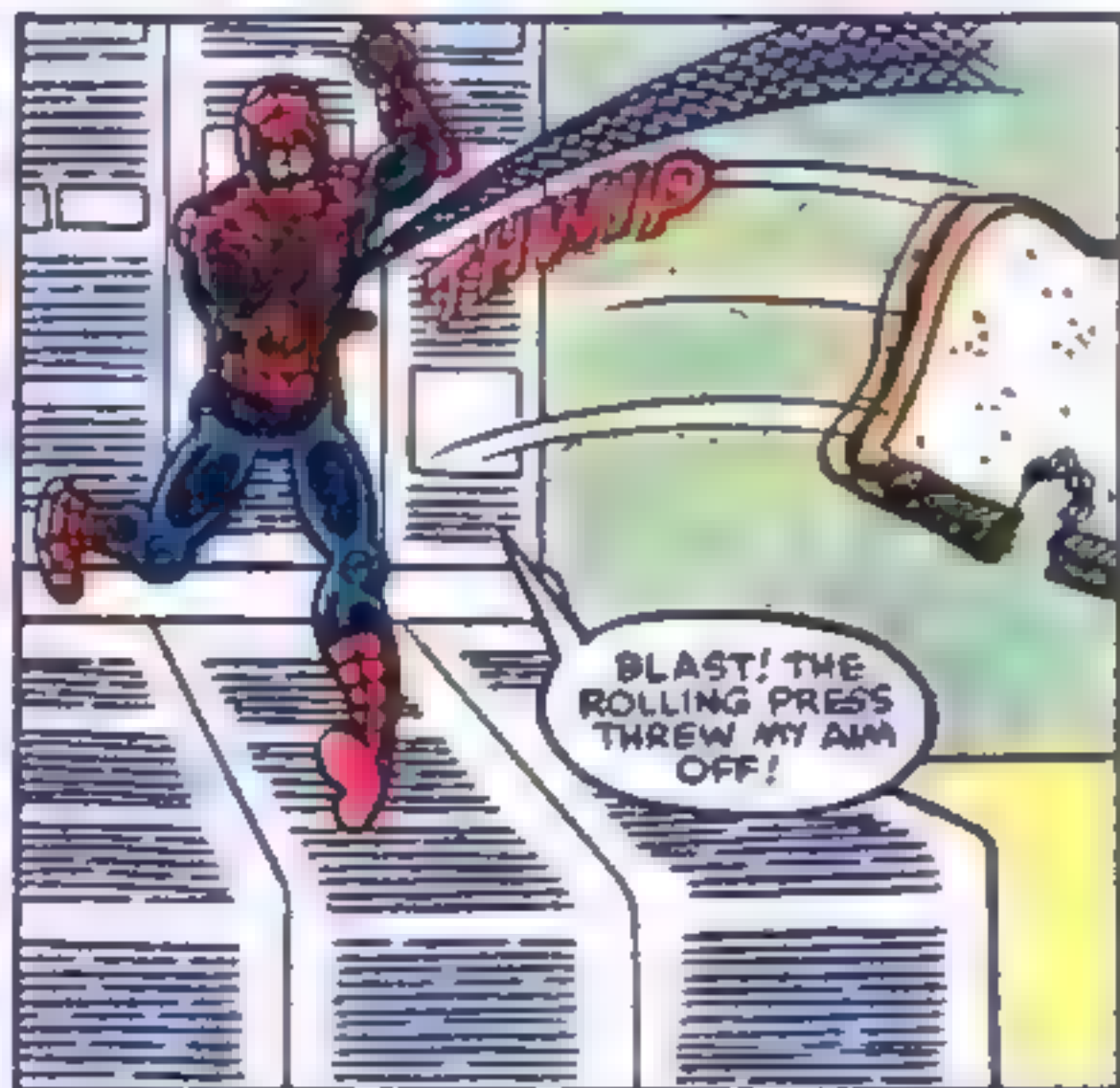
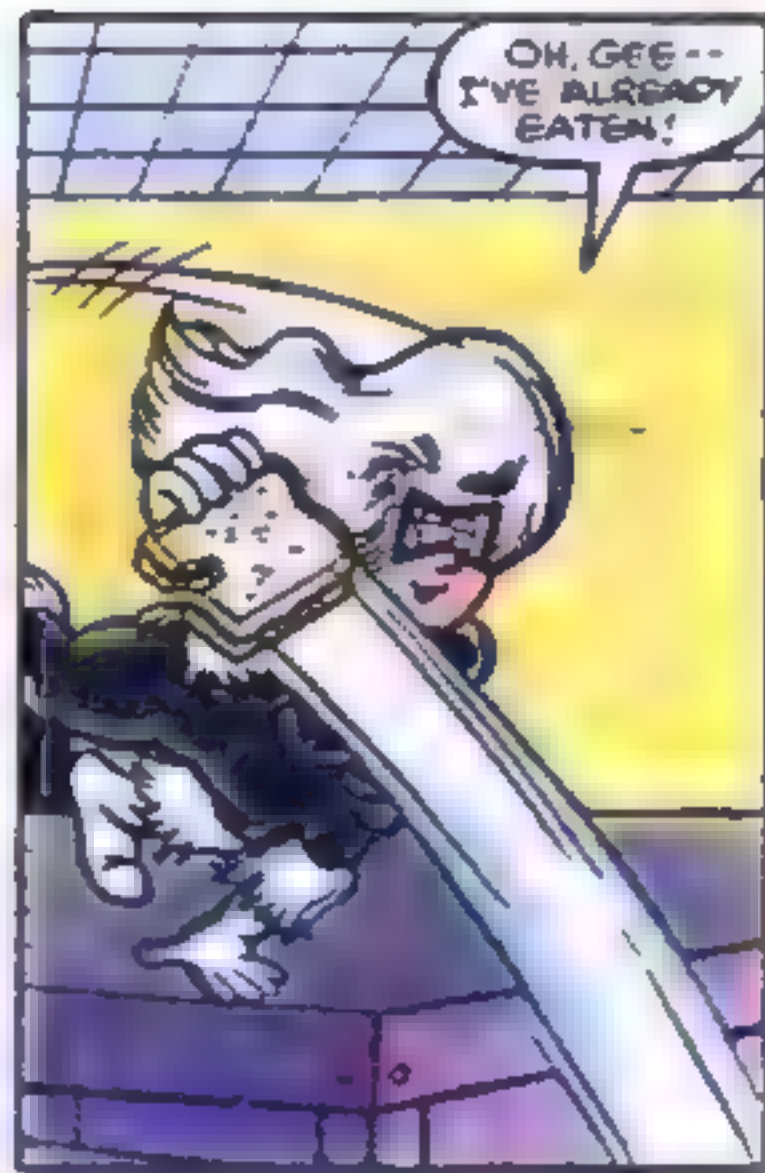
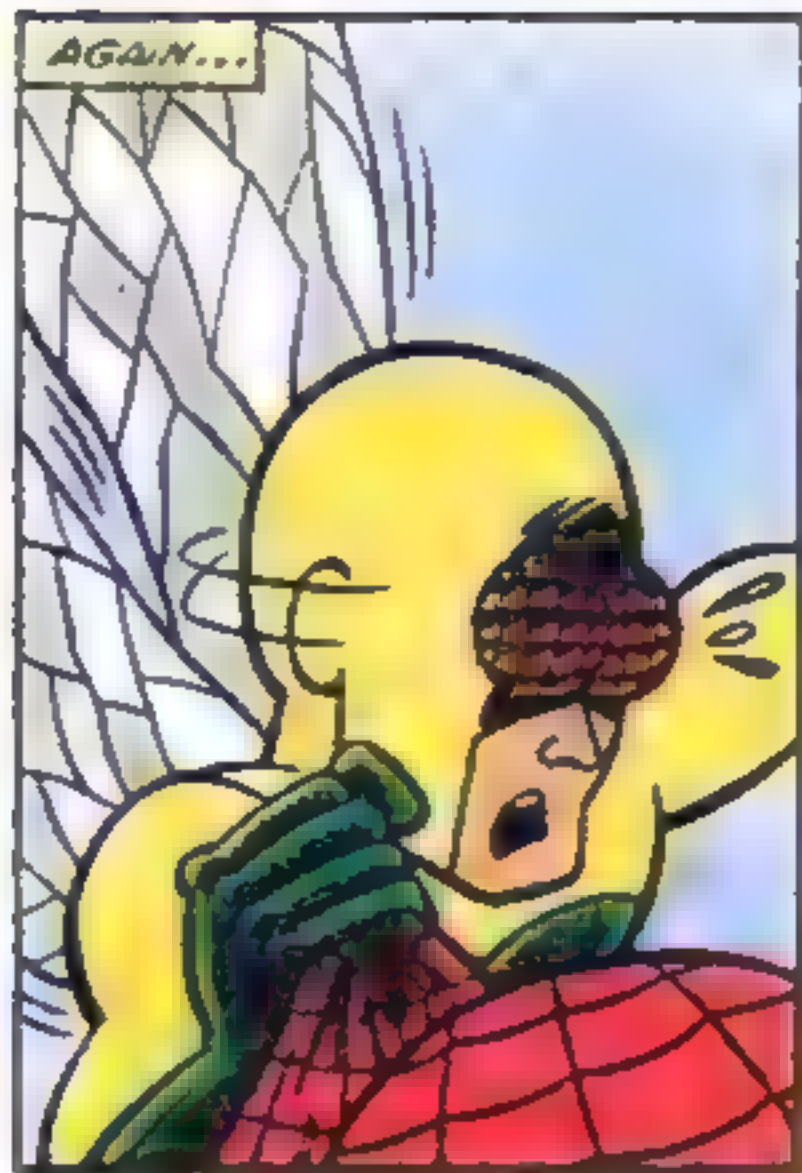


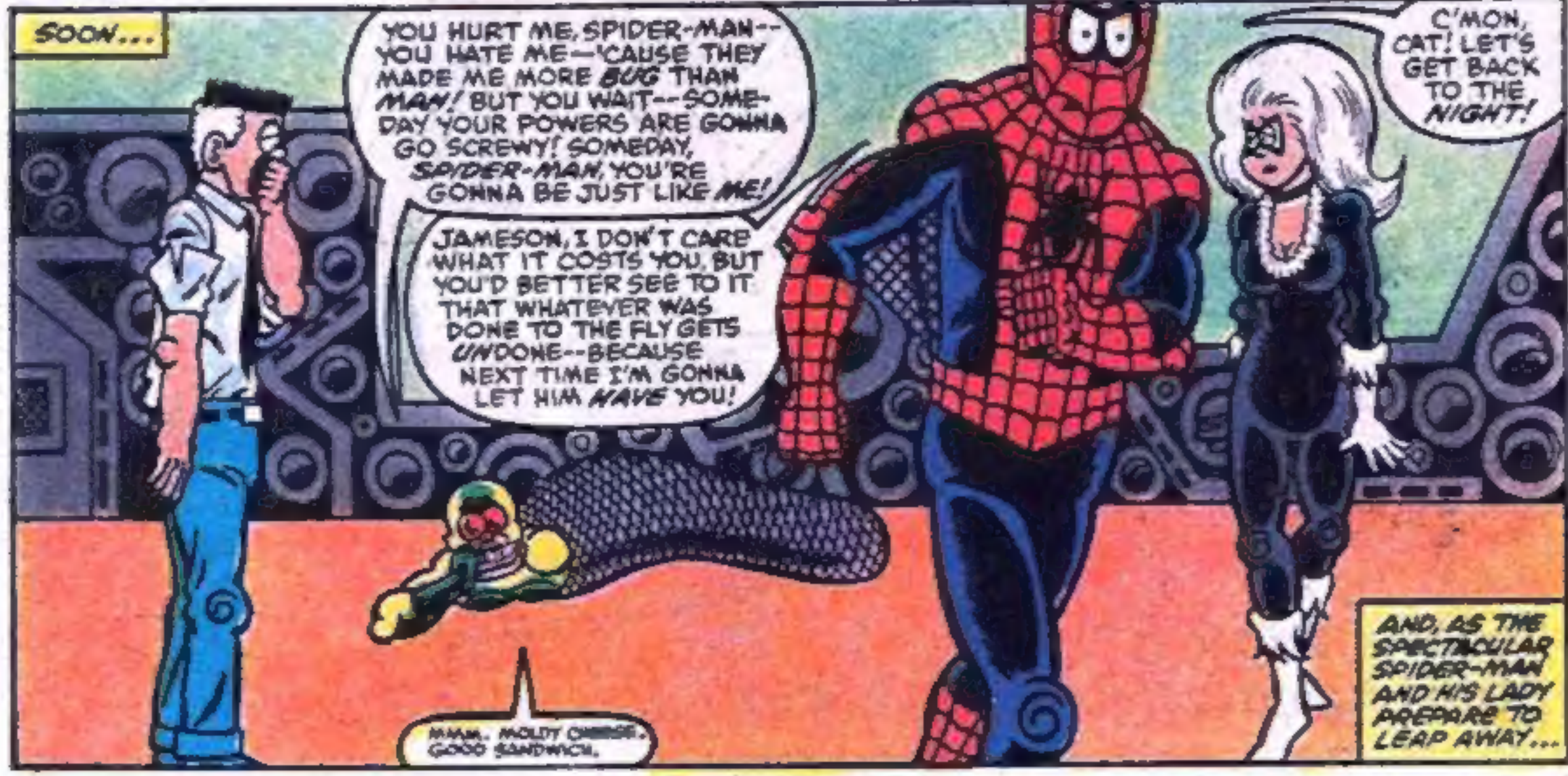
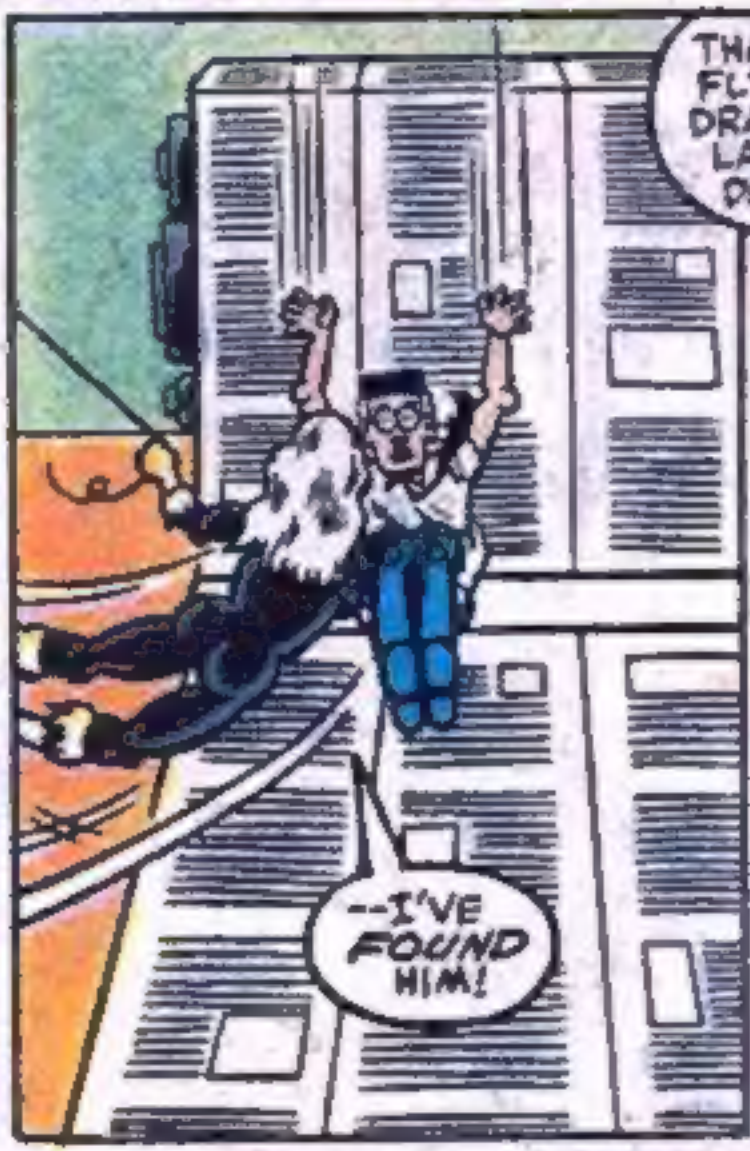
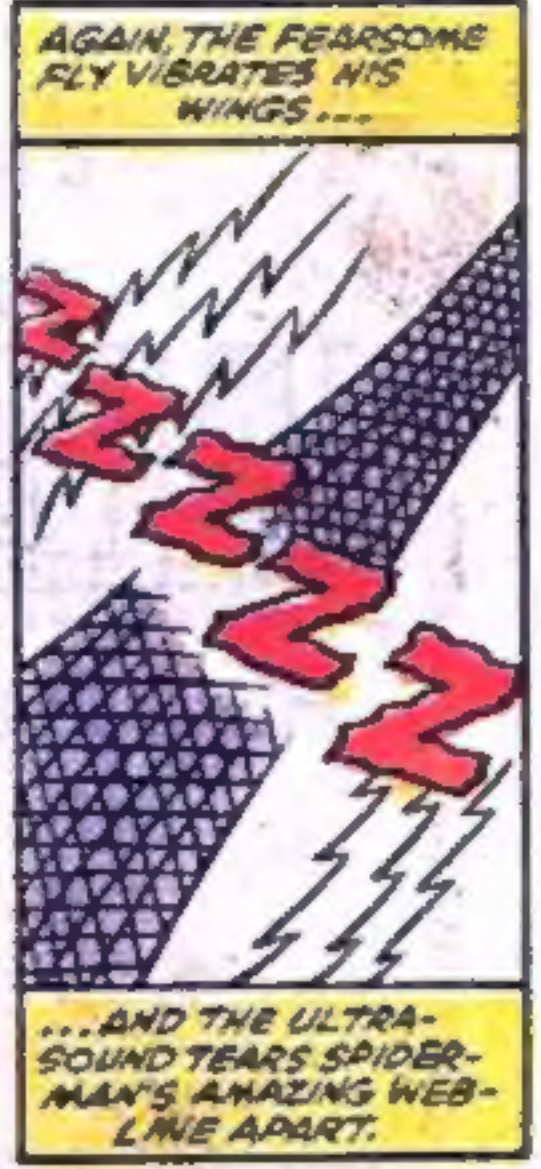
"--THE STAIRWELL DOWN TO THE PRESS ROOMS!"



SCANT SECONDS AHEAD OF THE FLY, SPIDER-MAN PINWHEELS INTO THE DEAFENING PRESS ROOMS OF THE DAILY BUGLE--







...THE STORY YOU ARE READING IS RIPPED VIOLENTLY OUT OF ITS ASSISTANT EDITOR'S HANDS!

DENATALE--
WHAT IS THIS
NONSENSE??!??

DANNY! OH, GREAT
ONE! LIGHT OF THE
UNIVERSE! VOICE
OF AUTHORITY!
Y-YOU'RE BACK?!!

I GOT WRITER'S CRAMP
SIGNING AUTOGRAPHS
AT THE CONVENTION, SO
THEY SENT
ME HOME!

BUT...WHERE'S THE ART I COMMISSIONED FROM
AL MILGROM FOR SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #86?
AND WHAT IS THIS... THIS SILLINESS?!

HEH-
HEH-
HEH...

DOOMED!

WELL, YOU SEE, DANNY,
I DECIDED... I MEAN, I THOUGHT
I'D TAKE A CHANCE IN YOUR
ABSENCE TO TRY SOMETHING
NEW, AND SO...

SO YOU HAD FRED HEMBECK--
FUNNY FAN ARTIST SUPREME--
DRAW AN ENTIRE ISSUE OF
PETER PARKER???

OH, MY ACHING ADENOIDS! DO YOU
HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT JOVIAL JIM
SHOOTER IS GOING TO DO TO US
WHEN THIS STORY HITS THE
NEWSSTANDS???

IMAGINE MT. ST. HELENS
IN A BROOKS BROTHERS
SUIT!

BUT, WAIT! MAYBE THERE'S STILL
A CHANCE TO SALVAGE SOMETHING!

MILGROM! DID YOU FINISH ANY
OF THIS JOB BEFORE MY MOUSE-
BRAINED ASSISTANT STOPPED
YOU??

WELL, ALL
THAT'S INKED
ARE THE LAST
TWO PAGES.

IT'S A
LUCKY THING
JIM WORK
BACKWARDS,
MILGROM!

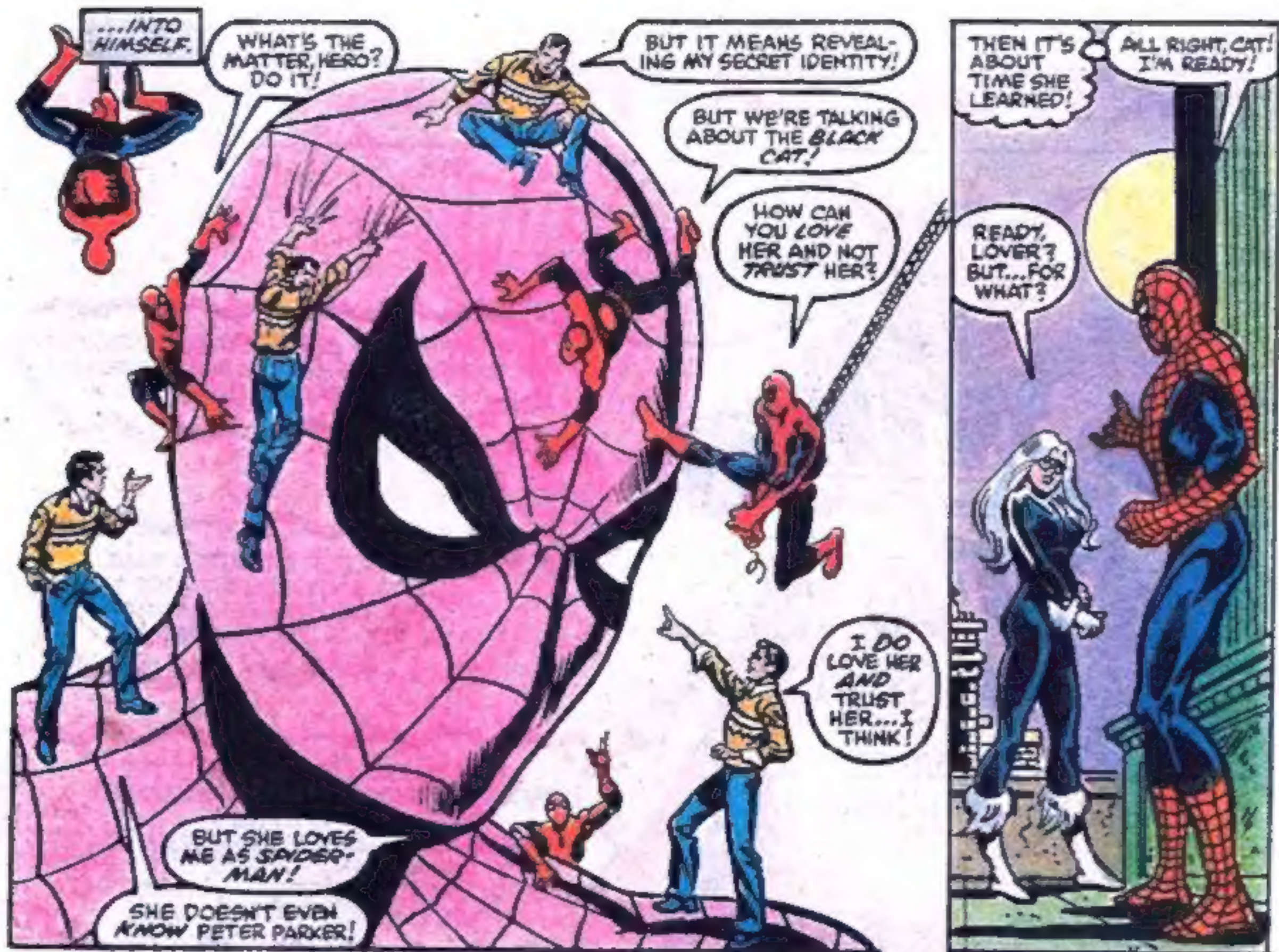
GIMME!!!

YES!
YES!

THE POWER... THE PATHOS
... THE PASSION AS
SPIDEY AND THE BLACK
CAT SWING AWAY FROM
THE DAILY BUGLE
BUILDING...!

PERHAPS OUR READERS
WON'T MIND THE REST
OF THE STORY IF WE
END IT WITH
THIS...





NEXT MONTH: MISTAKEN IDENTITIES!